FRONTISPIECE

A. Smith Sculp.

The Hand of the diligent maketh Rich.

Pr. 1s

THE COMPLEAT ENGLISH GARDENER:

OR,

Gardening made perfectly Eaſy:

CONTAINING,

Full and plain Directions for the proper Management

OF THE

FLOWER, FRUIT, and KITCHEN Gardens,

for every Month in the Year.

The whole laid down in ſo plain and eaſy a Manner, that all who are deſirous of managing a Garden, may do it effectually, without any other Inſtructions whatever.

To which is added,

The COMPLEAT BEE-MASTER; or,

Beſt Method of managing BEES, both for Profit and Pleaſure. Together with the whole Art of breeding and rearing FOWLS, DUCKS, GEESE, TURKIES, PIGEONS, and RABBETS.

Likewiſe Plain Inſtructions for deſtroying Vermin, particularly ſuch as infeſt Houſe, Gardens, Dairies, Barns, Bees, Poultry, Rules to judge of the Weather, and ſeveral other Articles equally uſeful, &c. &c.

By SAMUEL COOKE, Gardener,

At *Overton* in *Wiltſhire*;

Who has practiſed Gardening, thro' all its branches, in many counties, upwards of Forty Years.

The honeſt Gard'ner ſweats his Brow,
'To pleaſe the Dainty He,
And lays the tender Plant but now,
Which grows a beauteous Tree.
All other Buſineſs here is ſhewn,
As clear theſe Pages tell,
The manner how is fully known,
To ferm your Garden well.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE Art of Gardening may be deemed the moſt uſeful and entertaining of all others, as it expands the variegated beauties of nature, and adminiſters the moſt wholſome food to the body.—It has been the ſtudy and delight of the greateſt men in all ages, as well as employed the ableſt pens: wie need, therefore, no other apology for preſenting the world with this compendious ſyſtem, than the utility of attempting to abridge and arrange the whole in ſuch a manner, as to aſſiſt the underſtanding and practice of the reader.

In ſhort, it has been our care faithfully to ſelect the produce and inſtructions relative to the manures of each month in the year, as the moſt approved method of aſſiſting the memory, without perplexing the mind.

Thus

Thus we hope to exhibit a pleaſing view of the product of every month in the vegetable creation; to the honour of the univerſal parent of nature, and benefit of mankind in general, many of whom may be thereby prompted to co-operate with a wiſe providence, in promoting as wiſe and ſalutary deſigns.

To render our undertaking ſtill more extenſively uſeful, we have annexed, *A preſcription for the deſtruction of every ſpecies of vermin that inſeſt fruits, plants,* &c. as alſo, *A Conciſe Treatiſe on the management of Bees*; and, *Directions for the breeding and rearing of Poultry.*

Likewiſe certain Rules to judge of the Weather: grounded on fifty years experience and obſervations, by an ancient Shepherd on the South Downs, Suſſex.

THE

THE

Compleat *Engliſh* GARDENER:

OR,

Gardener's Monthly Chronicle.

AS the bounties of nature cannot be more beautifully diſplayed than in the vegetable creation, and as the utility of gardening amply compenſates for all our labour; we have in this little treatiſe laid down in chronological order the manner of conducting, not only the gentleman, who exerciſes it for his amuſement, but likewiſe the induſtrious gardener, who follows it as a profeſſion. In order to effect which we begin, firſt, with the month of

JANUARY.

Work to be done in the Kitchen Garden.

YOUR ground muſt be thrown up in ridges that it may be properly ſweetened for the reception of ſpring crops. Near walls, hedges, or pales, you muſt ſow carrot, radiſh, lettuce, and ſmall ſallading.

Hot beds muſt be prepared for ſowing of melon ſeed and cucumbers: likewiſe for aſparagus, which muſt be done at two different times, leaving about three weeks between each.

Muſtard, creſſes, rape, radiſh, and turnep ſeeds, muſt be ſown on beds covered with mats, over arches made with hoops. If the weather ſhould be ſevere, you muſt cover the mats with ſtraw.

When the weather is open, and the ground not too moiſt, you muſt earth up your cellery in order to blanch it. If it ſhould be froſty, cover the ridges with long litter, or tanner's bark.

Windſor, Sandwich, and Token beans, ſhould be ſown about the middle of this month. Your muſhroom beds muſt be carefully covered with long, freſh ſtraw.

Tranſplant near the end of this month ſome cabbage plants of the ſugar-loaf kind; but previous to this the ground muſt be ſown with ſpinnach. Take off all decayed leaves from your cauliflower plants under frames, and if the weather is temperate, give them as much air as poſſible.

If the ſeverity of the weather ſhould render your former labour ineffectual, repeat your planting, not forgetting to take particular care of the neceſſary defence.

Peas and beans ſhould be now planted in order to ſucceed thoſe in November and December. Sow parſly in drills; likewiſe chervil about the end of this month.

Work relative to the Fruit Garden.

The roots of all new planted trees muſt be covered with mulch, to keep off the ſeverity of the

the froſt. Fig-trees which are placed againſt walls muſt be covered with mats or reeds, firſt taking off thoſe which were left on the branches in Autumn. Cut the uſeleſs branches of your fruit trees cloſe to the ſtem. Prune your vines, dwarf trees, and any hardy ſort of fruit.

If the ſucceeding month ſhould produce moiſt weather, clear your fruit trees from moſs, and prepare for planting. Being now to forward your early fruits, by placing dung or fire under your forcing frames. Prepare your decayed eſpaliers, and place them regularly at proper diſtances.

If the weather be mild, take grafts from early fruits, ſuch as cherries, plums, apples, pears, &c. and lay them in the earth as near as you can to a dry wall. If ſevere weather cover them with litter or ſtraw. If they are to be removed, cover the ends with clay, and faſten them together with a band made of ſtraw.

Work relative to the Flower Garden.

In froſty weather the beds of ranunculuſes, anemonies, hyacinths, and other valuable flowers ſhould be covered, with ſome light covering, ſuch as mats or peas-haulm. When they riſe above the ground, arch the bed over with hoops, covered with mats or cloths. If the weather be mild, you may uncover them. Turn over your compoſition of earth for future ſowing pretty often, that the froſt may mellow them.

If the ſeaſon be mild, towards the end of this month, take off all decayed leaves from your auriculas; take ſome of the earth out of the pots, but be very careful not to diſturb the roots; then fill them again, but let none of the earth fall upon the leaves.

If the weather be frosty, cover them with mats or cloths; but if it be temperate, let them have the benefit of the air, and the rfreſhment of moderate rain.

You muſt defend your tender flowers from heavy rains, ſnow, and hard froſt; and your plants muſt be properly guarded from the deſtruction of vermin.

Management of the different Manures in the courſe of this month.

The moſt material thing in the kitchen garden is the hot-bed, which muſt be ſo placed as to avoid the power of the north and ſouth-weſt winds, and to receive the cheriſhing heat of the ſun. When you have marked out its extent, drive ſtakes into the ground all round it, about a foot diſtance between each; cover the ſtakes with a hay-band, and then fill it with wet litter, or new horſe-dung, taking care to form the whole of an equal ſubſtance, by treading it down various times during its being filled.

When you have thus prepared your bed, adjuſt your wooden frames in ſuch manner as to admit the mold at top, and let them be placed on a ſlope. Leave ſpace enough for the earth, and be careful not to confine the ſhooting of your plants.

Take ſome earth from an old hot-bed, and mix with it; after which cover it with ſtraw or mats, ſupported with ſhort props, and let it continue till it be warm, but not hot. This you may know by putting a ſtick into the ground, which when taken out will feel warm to your hand; but if the heat ſhould loſe its ſtrength, place by the ſide of the bed a quantity of freſh dung.

After

After your plants have ſprung up in the hot-bed, let them have progreſſively the refreſhment of the air and ſun. When ſtrong enough tranſplant them into a bed not ſo hot as the former; frequently apply moderate watering, and ſecure them from the violent heat of the ſun. A little before ſun ſet cover the glaſſes with mats and litter to prevent their being deſtroyed by blaſts or ſharp winds.

The hot-bed formed for aſparagus muſt be a ſpot of ground adapted on purpoſe, well dug and dunged. Form your lines about ſeven or eight inches aſunder, and when they are a year old, plant the roots ſix or ſeven inches apart. In this ſituation they muſt remain two years, taking care to preſerve them from weeds, before they will be fit for the hot-bed, which muſt be made ſtrong, ſurrounded with bands of ſtraw, and covered with earth at leaſt ſix inches deep. Your roots being thus planted as near as poſſible, cover the buds of the plants two inches thick with earth. Let them continue in this manner five or ſix days, after which put on the frames and glaſſes, and cover them at leaſt three inches thick with freſh earth. On the buds firſt ſhooting, give them as much air as the mildneſs of the weather will admit. If temperate weather continues they will increaſe daily for about a month; but if cold weather ſhould enſue, you muſt apply freſh dung to the glaſſes every night; the good effects of which will be ſoon diſcovered.

Strawberries may be produced early if placed on a moderate hot-bed; as may likewiſe ſallad in a very ſhort time by means of powdered lime laid on each ſide with a track of dung in the middle; the whole muſt be covered over with good

rich mould. Radiſhes are likewiſe raiſed on the hot bed, but muſt be properly ſurrounded with mould that they may take deep roots before the dung reaches them; by this means they may be produced almoſt any time in the year. The hotſpur, charlton maſter, and other peas muſt be ſown in drills about three feet aſunder, that you may have the opportunity of going between them, and the lines muſt run from north to ſouth. After they have riſen near ſix inches high put earth on both ſides the lines about four inches deep, raiſing on the laſt ſides of them a kind of bank to ſcreen them from piercing winds.

Your vines muſt be pruned this month, paying proper reſpect to the ſtrength of the ſhoots: you muſt cut off all uſeleſs branches, leaving the ſhort jointed and ſtrongeſt nine inches, or more according to the ſtrength of the wood; but if they be old, take off the ſtem and ſupply its place with a young one. If you intend to circulate the vine, the laſt year's branches muſt be ſhortened in proportion to the body.

In order to raiſe anemonies you muſt form your earth on a rich ſand well ſifted, and of a pliable texture, for they ſeldom blow in a hard ſoil. Put a thin layer of willow earth at their firſt tranſplanting, and it will further their growth amazingly.

The ranunculus is managed much in the ſame manner as the anemony, only be careful to preſerve them from the ſeverity of ſharp winds and froſt, becauſe if the leaves ſhould be once nipped, they will ſoon decay, and the roots follow. They muſt be planted in rows about four inches aſunder.

The ſallads which are produced this month conſiſt of mint, creſſes, radiſhes, young onions, cellery

cellery and endive; young lettuce, boorcole, ſavoy cabbage, ſprouts of Dutch and Batterſea cabbages, red and Ruſſian cabbages, and various ſoup herbs, together with the tops of bromet and chervil.

Although this ſeaſon is generally attended with ſevere weather, yet we have ſome fruit, eſpecially the Bugi pear, which, when kept ſo long, is eſteemed delicious. There are likewiſe the golden ruſſet, leather-coat ruſſetin, winter pearmain, golden pippin, whitmill pippin, nonpareil, and monſtrous benette. Nuts, almonds, medlars, and ſervices. Aloes begin to throw out their flower-ſtems, and oranges to bloſſom. If the weather is mild, and you have neglected to ſow the ſeeds of auriculas, and polyanthuſes in the months of October and November, you may ſow them at this time. The winter aconite may be tranſplanted in flower.

The flowers that grow in this month are, the ſingle anemonies, winter ciclamens, acacia, ſnowdrops, primroſes, winter aconite, double blue violet, dwarf tithymal, and yellow ficoides.

FEBRUARY.

The Kitchen Garden.

DIG and prepare you ground for the ſowing of carrots, parſneps, radiſhes, ſpinach, beets, beans, peas, parſley and cabbage lettuce. Sow corn ſallad, large rooted parſley, ſummer and winter ſavory, marygolds, and other hardy plants, but place them in ſeparate beds or ſpots. Moderate

rate hot beds muſt be prepared for ſowing cauliflower ſeeds for ſummer plants; theſe ſeldom ſucceed unleſs the ſoil be moiſt. If the ſhoots are forward enough you may ſlip ſome old artichoak-ſtocks about the end of the month. Plant peas and beans every fortnight or three weeks, particularly the larger ſort of each. Tranſplant the melon and cucumber plants into new beds, but not till the violent heat of the bed is abated. Cover the muſhroom beds with frames, and place them under thatched ſheds, to preſerve them from heavy rain and ſnow. Kidney beans for an early crop muſt be planted on a moderate hot-bed, and when the weather is mild, give them as much air as you can.

Plant imperial, Sileſia and cos lettuces at the cloſe of the month if the weather ſhould be temperate. The ſeed of aſparagus muſt be ſown in a good bed in order to raiſe plants for the next year. Potatoes and Jeruſalem artichoaks muſt be planted in dry ground trenched deep; as alſo garlick, ſhallots, and rocambole. Plant hops, dig the ground, and prune the old roots, but be careful not to injure the buds of the plants. Tranſplant young cabbages for a crop.

In the Fruit Garden.

In mild weather let your fig-trees be open to the air, but when froſty, let them be again covered. Prune ſuch trees as have been neglected, and nail them to the wall. Where they are wanting tranſplant all ſorts of fruit trees, firſt breaking the clods that the ground may be ſoft. After rain, clear off the moſs from the trees, and be careful of bullfinches, who will deſtroy the hopes of your labour. If the end of the month

ſhould

ſhould produce mild weather, graft cherries, plums, pears, and other hardy fruit.

Draw off all ſuperfluous moiſture from the roots of trees, cut and lay quickſets, and earth up the roots of uncovered fruit-trees. Make new plantations of ſtrawberries, raſberries, gooſberries, and currants, if omitted in Autumn; likewiſe refreſh with water, and air, the ſtrawberries in hot-beds. Be careful of your early fruits or forcing frames, and give them air or heat as the weather will admit.

In the Flower Garden.

Towards the end of this month, if the weather be temperate, plant your carnations in the pots you intend them to flower; in bad weather let them be covered over with mats and kept warm. Sow auricula and polyanthus ſeeds in pots of good rich mould, and place them where they may receive the mild heat of the morning ſun. Keep your flower-beds clear of all weeds, as they will detriment their growth. On froſty nights cover your beds of tulips, anemonies, and ranunculuſes with mats. The flowering trees to be tranſplanted this month are jeſſamine, honeyſuckle, lilacs, roſes, laburnum, bladder and ſcorpion ſena, ſpireas and altheas.

The ever-greens muſt not be removed till the beginning of April. Carnations that were planted in Autumn muſt have freſh earth put to them; and toward the end of the month ſow ſweet williams, pinks, primroſe trees, larkſpurs, hollyhocks, and Canterbury-bells. On the ſide of a ſhady bank fix your plantations for the lilly of the valley.

All foreign ſeeds, eſpecially the annual kind, that

that come from warm climates, muſt be ſown in hot-beds; likewiſe orange and lemon kernels; the kernels muſt be put in the ground as ſoon as taken out of the fruit. Clean the different diviſions of you wilderneſs, turn and roll your gravel walks and lawns, and keep them clear of moſs. Head orange trees, give them freſh mould, and ſprinkle them with water that have been ſteeped in ſheep's dung two or three days, but be careful it only goes on the root; if it ſhould fall on the leaves, they will be infallibly deſtroyed. The double larkſpur and China ſtarworts may be now ſown in dry borders on a moderate hot bed, giving them proper air every day.

The flowers that grow this month are Perſian iris, crocuſes, ſilver alaturnus, narciſſus, dens caninus, hepatica, yellow gilliflowers, primroſes and anemonies, mezerion tree, fruit-bearing almond, colutea, and double pilewort.

Inſtructions for Grafting.

In this part of gardening there are four diſtinct methods, viz. Whip-grafting, grafting in the cleft, in the bark, and by approach; the firſt of which is practiſed on the pear, cherry, and plum.

The method to be uſed with ſtocks is as follows: when you have cut the ſtock and ſloped it (if you put but one ſcyon in) cleave it with a pruning knife about two inches deep, and inject a wedge to keep it open till the ſcyon is ready to tie and clay it, firſt covering the chink with moſs. The ſide of the wedge in the ſcyon, which is to be next the wood, muſt be cut thinner.

When you graft in the bark, which is generally

rally done on apples, you muſt cut the head of the ſtock ſloping, ſlitting only the bark a little above an inch on the ſouth weſt ſide, and looſen the bark at the top of the ſlit with your knife; after which, by a ſmooth inſtrument of hard wood, or ivory cut ſloping as the ſcyon, make room for it by thruſting it down between the bark and the wood where it was ſlit. When this is done, firſt uſing your opening inſtrument, take your ſcyon and put it into the ſtock, thruſting the top of the ſlope as low as the top ſurface of the ſtock. The bark on each ſide the ſcyon muſt be ſo ordered as to fall cloſe to the ſtock, after which it muſt be covered over with clay.

The method of whip-grafting, when the ſtock and ſcyon are nearly of a thickneſs, is performed thus. Let them be both ſloped alike at leaſt a full inch; as ſoon as they will lie true, tie one upon the other; clay and bind the place, or make a ſlit in the bare place of the ſtock, commencing near the top of the ſlope, ſlitting a little way, and in the ſloped face of the ſcyon doing the like, beginning at the ſame diſtance from the lower end, carrying it upwards; when that is done, join them by thruſting the one ſlice into the other till they exactly cover, then put clay, &c.

The various tools neceſſary for grafting are a ſtrong knife with a thick back, a neat hand-ſaw, a ſharp pen-knife to cut the grafts, a grafting chiſſel, a ſmall mallet; woolen yarn, or braſs ſtrings; and clay intermixed with horſe dung.

The method of grafting by approach, or inarching, is performed where a ſtock grows ſo near another tree, the fruit of which you would increaſe, that it may be joined with a branch of

that

that tree, by cutting the ſides about three inches long, and fitting them in ſuch manner that the paſſages of the ſap may meet; in this ſituation let them be clayed and bound. Take off the head of the ſtock, when they are well cemented, about four inches above the binding; and in the next month cut off the ſtub that was left of the ſtock, and the ſcyon underneath; cloſe the place which is grafted, that the ſtock only may ſubſiſt.

Inſtructions for pruning Apricots.

Nail the branches, which ſhoot forth in the firſt ſummer, horizontally; and if you have plenty, take off thoſe which ſprout forward.

The next ſummer proceed in the ſame manner, rubbing away all foreright ſhoots, and nailing the other as horizontally as poſſible on the wall. About a fortnight after Michaelmas prune the trees again as before.

The third year do the ſame, and be particularly careful not to hurt the ſpurs which riſe from the wood of the preceding year. Shorten the branches in winter pruning, ſo as to ſupply freſh wood where wanting, and cut off all luxuriant branches.

In pruning of peaches, you muſt be careful to keep them conſtantly ſupplied with bearing wood. Take off all weakly ſhoots, and nail the others to the wall, fixing them at ſuch diſtance that the leaves may have room to ſpread without ſhading the branches too much; theſe muſt be alſo nailed ſloping or horizontally.

When your fruit is as big as a ſmall nut, thin them about the diſtance of four or five inches, by which means they will much increaſe in their growth.

The

The Nectarine is in all reſpects to be managed as the peach; and other ſtony fruit in the ſame manner as theſe, only requiering leſs care, as they are hardier in their nature.

There are two things eſſentially neceſſary to be obſerved in pruning the before mentioned fruits. Firſt to furniſh every part of a tree with bearing wood; and ſecondly, not to lay the branches too cloſe together.

Culture of Flowers *and* Plants.

For the auricula, a box of oak or deal muſt be prepared about four feet long, two feet wide, and ſix inches deep, with holes in the bottom about ſix inches aſunder; lay cinders of ſea coals about two inches thick in the box, cover them over till the box is full with earth taken out of hollow willow trees.

The ſeeds muſt be ſown on the top, without any earth put over them; they muſt be preſſed with a flat board into the mould a little below the edge of the box, to prevent the light ſeeds from floating over the brim in watering.

The box muſt be placed, from the time of ſowing till the beginning of April, in ſome place where they may receive the heat of the ſun; after that they muſt be removed to ſome place that is ſhady.

If the ſeedlings fail the firſt year, they will come up the ſecond, and may be tranſplanted in July or Auguſt.

When you have planted them in beds of light, well ſifted mould, about four inches from each other, they muſt be placed ſo as to receive the heat of the morning ſun.

In April following they will ſhew themſelves, when they muſt be tranſplanted into pots of ſoil, compoſed of an equal quantity of rotten dung. Be careful to preſerve them from the rain, as it will much detriment their colour.

The polyanthus requires very little culture, and may be annually produced from ſeeds. If the weather is mild, you may ſow them the latter end of this month, but it muſt be in a good, rich ſoil, under a wall or hedge.

If any particular ſort is wanted, they muſt be taken from a ſlip, as the ſeed ſeldom produces the ſame kind. When they are out in five or ſix leaves, place them in ſhady borders, where they are intended to blow. In order to preſerve their beauty, you muſt tranſplant them often.

The larkſpur may be propagated by letting the ſeeds of the flowers drop, which will come up the next Spring. Plant them in an open place, and ſhift them often.

The hollyhock is raiſed from ſeeds ſown this month on a bed of good earth, and muſt be planted near walls or hedges. In October they will be fit to tranſplant.

Of ſweet williams there are two kinds, the ſingle and double. The firſt are raiſed by ſowing the ſeed in light earth, and will be fit to tranſplant about Michaelmas.

The latter are raiſed by layers, much in the ſame manner as carnations.

Roſes are all produced by layers or ſuckers, which may be either planted now or in Autumn; if they are planted this month, be careful they are properly watered.

Pomegranates are raiſed by laying down the young ſhoots, either this month or the next, and

may

may be tranſplanted, either in the Spring or at Autumn. Let them be put into pots, or againſt a ſouth wall, that the fruit may have opportunity to ripen.

The laburnum is raiſed by ſowing the ſeeds on a bed of freſh light earth, ſifting mould over them about the depth of half an inch. They will appear in about thirty days. Two years after coming up they muſt be tranſplanted. An open place is as beneficial to their growth as under the ſhade of trees.

The althea, or Chineſe roſe, is beſt propagated in a light, rich ſoil. It is a green-houſe plant, and is raiſed in a hot-bed, ſowing the ſeeds this month, or in March.

Of lilacs there are three ſorts, the white, the deep purple, and the yellow blotched; they are raiſed by ſuckers, which if taken off in October, you may plant in the nurſery, and in four years after they will be fit to tranſplant. They will thrive in almoſt any ſoil that is dry, ſometimes digging up the earth round the root.

The philirea, which is a beautiful plant, may be ſown this month on open beds of good mould; they make fine ornamental hedges, and if properly ſupported with rails or ſtakes will grow very quick.

Of laurus-tinus there are two different ſorts, the ordinary and the Portugueſe, both of which are produced from the ſeed ſown as ſoon as they are ripe, in good ground, or of ſuckers and layers. Though often trained as a headed plant, yet it is beſt if planted in a wilderneſs or againſt a wall. This, like all foreign plants, is inclined to bloſſom about Spring in its own climate,

which is our Autumn, and therefore this month is the proper time for pruning it.

The laurel-tree is propagated either by ſeed or berries, as ſoon as they are ripe. Towards the end of the month you may tranſplant them.

The yew-tree is beſt cultivated in a light, barren ſoil; the leaves are pliable to any form; the moſt common are, conic or pyramidal. About the end of two years you may ſet them in the nurſery, and place them near a foot aſunder in April. Let rotten ſtraw be put about their roots.

The moſt beautiful of ever-greens is the holly. When the berries of this plant are ripe, they muſt be gathered, and after having laid ſome time to ſweeten, they muſt be put in ſand or earth, after which they may be ſown in the nurſery beds.

The ſtriped holly, which only has a place in gardens, cannot be pruned into thoſe nice figures which moſt other trees admit of, and are therefore converted into a ball, a pyramid, or headed.

The bay-tree is propagated much in the ſame manner as the holly. If moiſt weather ſhould enſue, they will come up in about ſix weeks; you muſt ſhelter them the three firſt Winters, after which they muſt be tranſplanted. Of this kind there is one with variegated leaves, which, if diſcoloured by the froſt, will ſhoot afreſh, if you cut off the top branch in the Spring.

Directions for the manures of this month.

The beds for raiſing muſhroons muſt be formed in the following manner. Dig a trench five or ſix inches deep, lay in it either the dung of horſes,

horſes, mules, or aſſes, ridgeways; or dung from a mill where the horſes tread; this muſt be the laſt covering before the earth is laid on. When the bed is compleated, which muſt be three or four feet high, cover the dung with freſh earth about two or three inches thick; after this get ſome dry muſhroon earth, and ſtrew it over the bed on the laſt covering of dung before the mould is laid on.

In ſevere weather you muſt put hoops and mats over it, and the whole bed muſt be covered with dry litter or ſtraw, to ſcreen it as well from the Summer's ſun as Winter's froſt.

When the bed is thus prepared, twice or thrice a week you muſt water the covering of ſtraw, and in about two months the muſhroons will begin to appear, at which time they muſt be cut as they ſpring up.

The different kinds of cabbages are the Dutch, the Savoy, the Ruſſia, the ſugar-loaf, and the Batterſea. They may be produced in any ſoil, if kept well watered. The Savoy cabbages are uſed for Winter, and towards the Spring they ſhoot forth ſprouts which are even preferable to the cabbages themſelves.

A light ground mixed with ſand is beſt calculated for carrots. Dry weather is the beſt to ſow them. Keep them as clear from weeds as poſſible after the firſt houghing, till they are full grown; then take them up, and what you don't uſe for the preſent, lay in ſand for the Winter.

Turneps will grow in any ſoil, though they thrive beſt in a ſandy, loomy ground; when the plants begin to leaf, they muſt be houghed at a proper diſtance from each other.

Parſneps thrive beſt in a rich ſoil, and are to be treated much in the ſame manner as carrots; only a greater diviſion muſt be left between them.

The manner of cultivating ground for ſtrawberries is as follows. Take a quantity of horſe-dung and coal-aſhes well mixed, lay it upon the land, and then dig or trench it; after this borders muſt be made three feet high, and ſlips planted thereon from eight to eighteen inches apart, according to the ſorts.

There are five kinds of ſtrawberries, the Chili, the hautboy, the ſcarlet, and the red and white wood-ſtrawberries. The Chili ſtrawberry, being the largeſt of all, ſhould be ſet two feet aſunder.

Of raſberries there are two ſorts, the white and the red, the former of which is moſt valuable. They thrive in much the ſame ground as ſtrawberries, and are propagated by ſlips taken from the roots about the end of this month, or the beginning of March.

They muſt be planted in ſingle rows about a foot aſunder; between each row muſt be a ſpace of three feet, leaving the heads, when planted, two feet high. The Muſcovy cluſtered raſberries will very ſoon ripen, if planted againſt a wall, betwixt the trees, when there is a vacancy.

You muſt be careful to keep them clear of weeds in the Spring, and prune the tops of the ſtrongeſt ſhoots of the laſt year, leaving them about three feet high, and cut away all branches that are dead and weak. This, like the ſtrawberry, will not have its full crop till the third Summer after it is planted.

Gooſeberries are produced either by ſeeds, ſuckers, or cuttings; the ſeeds may be ſown as

ſoon

ſoon as ripe, and the following Spring they will come up. The ſuckers are to be taken from the roots of old trees, when their leaves are fallen in open weather, and tranſplanted in nurſeries. If the cuttings are planted in September and October, they will take root.

Currants thrive in much the ſame ſoil as the gooſeberry, and are generally planted againſt walls, that the fruit may grow larger; but the ſtandards produce the ſweeteſt fruit.

Thoſe who are curious may preſerve the fruit till Auguſt or September, by tying up the buſhes in mats when they are juſt ripe. The largeſt fruit being always found on the youngeſt branches, both of the gooſeberry and currant; the trees ſhould be kept from old wood, never leaving any ſhoots beyond the growth of three years.

Among the various things produced this month are, ſallad-herbs, water-creſſes, and blanched dandelion. If January's froſt has not prevented it, cucumbers will produce fruit towards the cloſe of the month, as will likewiſe kidney-beans, if ſown at the ſame time. There are alſo cabbages, ſprouts, white-beet, turneps, parſneps, potatoes, ſkerrets, and ſcorzonera; likewiſe chardones and young carrots. Aſparagus is alſo much improved in flavour.

We have now many kinds of pears and apples. Likewiſe nuts, almonds, and medlars. And there are, even at this time, cherries and green apricots. The oranges in the green-houſe begin now to ſhoot forth their bloſſoms.

MARCH.

Work to be done in the Kitchen Garden.

IF the heat of your cucumber and melon beds is declined, you muſt renew it by putting new horſe-dung round the ſides; give them air in the day, and cover the glaſſes with mats every night. Cabbages, ſavoys, and red cabbages muſt be now ſown for Winter uſe. Plant out your cauliflower plants for the general crop; and if the weather is mild let them have air.

Sow radiſhes, ſpinach, and ſallad herbs every week. Peas and beans every fortnight.

Cellery muſt be now ſown to ſucceed that in the laſt month. Slip and plant mint, tanſey, tarragon, penny-royal, chamomile, balm, ſavory, ſage, roſemary, hyſſop, lavender, wormwood, ſouthernwood, thyme, and moſt plants that are aromatic.

Lettuce plants, which have ſtood the Winter in warm borders, muſt now be planted in a more open expoſure. Sileſia, cos, and imperial lettuces muſt be ſown in an open ſpot of ground, to ſucceed thoſe in February.

About the middle of this month dreſs and rake your beds of aſparagus, and in April the buds will appear. You may now make new plantations of aſparagus, in the natural ground prepared for that purpoſe.

Dreſs your artichoaks, leaving only two or three of the beſt ſituated and cleareſt plants upon each root to bear; ſlip the reſt clean off, and

plant

plant the beſt of them to produce heads the latter part of the year.

Near the end of the month ſow on hot-beds purſlane, naſturtium, French and African marygolds; likewiſe marygolds in the natural earth. In ſome warm place ſow young ſallads, likewiſe rape, ſorrel, finnochia and ſpinach. Burnet and endive muſt be ſown very thin to prevent running to ſeed.

Sow leeks, chervil, fennel, beet, and dill. Divide the roots of tarragon, and make young plantations of chives.

You muſt now dreſs up your ſtrawberry beds, and keep them clear of runners till the plants bloſſom; when neceſſary, let them be watered. Slip and ſet ſage, &c. if the ſoil is clayey, or if over moiſt, mix aſhes to bind it.

The gardener muſt be careful this month that the inclemency of the weather don't injure his plants and trees; all young planted herbs muſt be watered every morning. You muſt be diligent in deſtroying the weeds before they run to ſeed. Your garden ought to be compleatly cropped by the end of this month.

In the Fruit Garden.

It is now time to make an end of planting fruit-trees, and to fill up all vacant ſpaces; alſo to finiſh the pruning of apricots, peaches and nectarines, which are to be done agreeable to our former directions.

Such peaches, plums, pears, and cherries as have had one year's growth, ſhould be pruned the beginning of this month. Neither is it too late to cut off the heads of new planted trees againſt a wall,

a wall, and to reduce them to five or ſix buds. Prune fig-trees, and what great wood can be ſpared muſt be cut cloſe off to the ſtem.

Graft apples and cherries; the firſt take beſt on crab-ſtocks, and the laſt on black cherry; but the moſt curious method is by inoculation.

The heads of thoſe ſtocks which were inoculated laſt Summer, muſt be cut off two inches above the bud ſlopeways, beginning the ſlope oppoſite to the bud; and the dead wood, by ſome called the cock-ſpur, muſt be cut clean off the following year in March, that the wound may be healed, and the ſtock and ſcyon the better incorporate.

Layers of the vine and fig muſt now be laid, and horizontal ſhelters erected over ſome of the earlieſt bloſſoms of fruit-trees to ſecure them from perpendicular dews and ſevere froſts.

Sow poppies, the venus's looking-glaſs, roſe-campion, valerian, foxglove, acanthus, and ſuch like other annuals, as you could not venture to ſow in February. Likewiſe the ſeeds of the various kinds of ſtock gilly-flowers, particularly the ten-weeks. Sow a few every fortnight in the common earth, and divide or ſlip all kinds of fibrous-rooted plants, not in flowering, ſuch as the gentianella, cardinal-flower, double white rocket, ſcarlet lychnis, roſe-campions, double wall-flowers, perennial ſun-flowers, aſters, monk-hoods, ſweet williams, hollyhocks, &c.

Plant tube-roſes in pots of freſh earth, giving them a gentle warmth, but no water till they have riſen out of the earth. Your tulips muſt be ſheltered from blights, which may be done by covering them with mats or canvas.

Sow

Sow the ſeeds of the campanula pyramidalis, and take off ſlips from the roots; let your pots have freſh air, and place them in ſome pit, where they may receive the warmth of the ſun, which will much increaſe their growth. Your ſhelves and places of ſhelter for the auricula muſt be mended and repaired; they muſt be defended on all ſides, except the eaſt, from the ſun, and be careful that no rain comes to them. Your carnation layers muſt be tranſplanted for blowing, if they were not planted the latter end of the year.

Slip and ſet box for edgings, or in figured works: ſow the ſeeds of juniper and fir, and tranſplant the yew, ever-greens, philirea and holly. Plant and make layers of the paſſion tree, and graft the Spaniſh white jeſſamine upon the common white Engliſh ſort. Move your ananas or pine apples out of the ſtove in the bark beds, that the fruit may be forwarded.

This month and the next make layers of the vine, which will be fit to tranſplant the Michaelmas following: this tree is alſo propagated either by laying down the young branches as ſoon as the fruit is gathered, or at that time making plantations of cuttings. It may be likewiſe raiſed by drawing a young branch through the hole at the bottom of a garden pot about Chriſtmas, and then filling the pot with earth; they will take root, and may be cut from the mother plant with fruit growing on them the Michaelmas following. Thoſe which are thus raiſed in pots will preſerve their fruit good almoſt till Chriſtmas, if they are ſheltered from the weather in a green houſe, or ſome ſuch place.

Figs are propagated either from ſeeds, ſuckers, or layers: the ſuckers are ſeparated from the old

roots

roots the beginning of March, and are to be then tranſplanted, without cutting any of their tops. The layers are managed much like the vine, and if the ſeeds are ſown in rubbiſh or ſuch like ſoil about March, they will readily come up. It delights in the ſame ſoil with the vine, and may be planted in ſtandards, or againſt walls. Obſervations have been made that the ſtandard fig trees bear fruit in greater abundance and much better than thoſe planted againſt walls, becauſe, as they are endangered by pruning, ſo they thrive not in confinement.

This tree is different in the manner of pruning from any other; for as the method is to take away the ſmall branches in other trees, in this it is to be avoided, becauſe fig the puts forth its fruit at the extremities of the laſt year's ſhoots. You muſt cut off ſome of the weak ſmaller ſhoots, which do not promiſe to bear, but be careful you do it cloſe to the great wood. Take away all the great wood to avoid confuſion, and the branches of the tree muſt not be permitted to grow too high, becauſe it will prevent their being full; therefore the new thick branches muſt be ſhortened yearly to a foot, or thereabouts; you muſt break off the bud at the end of the branches in Spring, that inſtead of a ſingle branch it may have two, which will cauſe them the earlier to ſhoot out figs. Whatever you cut from the fig muſt be as cloſe to the great wood or roots as you can; and you may cut down a whole tree to the roots, to recover it from a ſickly ſtate, if the winter has been unkind. It puts forth ſuckers, which muſt be kept down, in great abundance.

When

When your figs have ſhot ſix or ſeven inches, cut or ſtop the ſhoots, and continue ſo to do all the Summer, by which two crops in a year will ripen.

Now is the time to plant beans, leaving a diſtance of three feet betwixt the rows, and the large ſort of peas four feet. Set them about five inches apart in a ſtiff ſoil, without any manure: keep them clear of weeds, and water them about the time of their bloſſom. Beans in the Winter are commonly ſown in ſingle lines, under a ſouth wall or hedge.

Mint and balm will grow any where, and are propagated by parting their roots any time in the Spring, as well as by ſowing. The mint is more generally cultivated than the other, being of itſelf a good ſallad, of uſe in ſoups and ſauces, and proper for diſtilling. When 'tis about a foot high you may cut it in bunches for Winter uſe, obſerving to dry it in the ſhade; which ſhould be attended to as a general rule for other herbs.

Thyme is raiſed either by ſeeds ſown in this month or April, or from ſlips planted at the ſame time: there are ſeveral ſorts of this herb, one whereof has variegated leaves, and is proper for edgings.

Sage is likewiſe propagated from ſeeds or ſlips, but moſt commonly from the latter, taken from the roots at the end of this month, or the beginning of April, and planted in light earth a foot aſunder.

Rue is a plant which delights in ſhady places, and is multiplied by ſlips ſet in a light ſoil: this plant has been thought to prevent the plague, for which, in times of peſtilence, it was much valued.

Penny-royal and camomile are propagated from ſlips planted in March or April; they grow beſt in a ſtiff ſoil, and ſhould be fixed in a ſhady place. Fennel, dill, parſley, &c. are raiſed from ſeeds ſown in the natural ground this month.

There are two ſorts of marjoram; that which is called Winter ſweet marjoram will laſt ſome years; the other ſown annually on hot beds is not ſo durable. The firſt is increaſed by planting the ſlips in moiſt ground about March or April.

Tanſey is increaſed by parting the roots in the Spring, and is a plant which, for its valuable qualities, ſhould be always kept dry in the Winter. It is extremely uſeful for people who are afflicted with the gout in the ſtomach. That diſorder has been removed by boiling half a handful of it in a pint of ſtrong white wine, and drinking it hot.

The ſeed of cellery may be ſown this month and the next in ſuch part of the garden as is open to the air. It muſt be planted about ſix weeks after it comes up, in beds, allowing ſix inches diſtance between the plants: they muſt remain there till the middle of June, when ſome of the firſt ſowing will be fit to plant in trenches for blanching. A light rich ſoil is beſt, and the trenches muſt be cut eight or ten inches wide, and of the ſame depth, in which the plants are to be put as ſoon as made, after having pruned off their tops and roots; they are to ſtand at five inches diſtance, and as they increaſe in growth, are to be earthed up to within four or five inches of their tops.

Endive loves a light rich ſoil, and though it may be ſown in this month, yet it is better to leave it till the next. When it has been come

up

up about ſix weeks, plant it in beds, as directed for cellery, and, about the middle of July, plant it in rows about ſix inches apart. As ſoon as it is well grown you may tie up ſome of it to whiten, which work ſhould be continued every fortnight.

Purſlane is a very cooling herb, and admired by ſome in Summer ſallads. If it is ſown this month it muſt be covered with glaſſes; if not till the next, the heat of the ſun will be ſufficient. Sorrel is ſown in rows or drills, like other ſallading.

Spinage, in March, April, and May, is to be ſown in ſeveral parcels of ground at different times, about a fortnight from one another, as a conſtant ſupply for the table, till there is plenty of other greens. There are two ſorts of it, the prickly and the round: this, like moſt other plants of the like nature, thrives in a light, rich ſoil. Spinage-ſeed is ſown for the Winter in the beginning of Auguſt.

In this month ſow ſeeds of the cabbage lettuce of all kinds in the open ground among the crops; they delight in rich light ground and a warm expoſure: to preſerve a ſupply they ſhould be ſown every month from March to Auguſt.

The ſeeds of artichoak are ſown the beginning of this month, and planted out in April. The middle of this month is the moſt proper ſeaſon to ſlip the roots for new plantations; they are generally raiſed by ſuckers. When the ſlips are cut, you muſt leave three heads growing upon every old root. The ſlips muſt be planted in lines two feet aſunder, and four feet diſtance from each other. After planting they muſt be well watered. A ſtrong rich ſoil, well expoſed to the ſun, is the moſt proper for them.

Sow your cauliflower ſeed this month in ſome corner of the garden, where the plants may be ſheltered. Near the middle of the month, when they are in their firſt leaf, plant them in a nurſery about five or ſix inches aſunder, and continue them there till the latter end of May or June, when they are to be tranſplanted abroad for your crop. Rainy or moiſt weather is the beſt. If it be a dry ſeaſon, make holes in the ground about three feet apart, and before you fix the plants, water the earth. You muſt afterwards water them very often.

The Autumn following they will bear large flowers; but ſome of them will not flower till after Michaelmas, and ſuch plants muſt be taken up with the earth round their roots, and ſet together in a green houſe, or ſome ſuch place, where they will enlarge themſelves, and be fit for uſe in the Winter.

To have Summer cauliflowers, you muſt ſow the ſeed the beginning of Auguſt, upon ſome decayed hot bed, and tranſplant them about three inches diſtance, as ſoon as they have put out their firſt leaf, upon ſome other bed; the middle of September draw out every other plant, and ſet them ſix inches apart under a ſouth wall, to ſtand there till Spring, when they are to be planted out for flowering; or you may ſet them in the places where they are to bloſſom, covering them with glaſs bells in the Winter.

If the weather is open, Aſparagus may be ſown the beginning of this month; the February or March following the ſeedlings will be fit to be planted out.

In order to obtain a natural crop, you muſt proceed thus; firſt meaſure out your ground, allowing four feet for the breadth of each bed, and

two

two feet for the alleys between the beds; then open a trench at one end, and lay in the bottom of it horſe-dung, about ſix or eight inches thick. Then trench the ſame quantity of ground, lying next to the firſt trench, throwing the earth of the ſecond trench upon the dung in the bottom of the firſt; and thus continue till the whole is done.

This being over, in lines at eight or ten inches diſtance, plant the aſparagus, taken freſh out of the nurſery, ſpreading their roots, and covering their buds with earth about four inches thick. Each bed takes up four rows; when all the beds are planted, ſow the whole with onions, and rake it level, for the alleys will not be of any uſe till after Michaelmas, when the onions will be off, and the ſhoots of the aſparagus plants made that Summer are to be cut down. Then dig up the alleys, and throw part of the ſoil upon the beds, to raiſe the earth about five or ſix inches above the buds of the plants, ſupplying the alleys with dung or ſome rich ſoil.

In March following, the earth muſt be raked down, and the alleys are to be turned up every Winter, and now and then enriched with dung. After Michaelmas cut down the haulm, and give them their Winter dreſſing; and you are not to be later than the middle of March without raking and laying down the beds.

It is a general rule not to cut any of the aſparagus till the fourth year after planting; but where the plants are ſtrong, a few may be taken here and there, in very ſmall quantities, the third year.

About the beginning of April, the aſparagus appears above ground, and may be cut till the

beginning of June, when they have ſtood five years; but if they are younger, you muſt not cut them after the middle of May.

In the Flower Garden.

The poppy is an annual plant, ſown in ſpots, and of various colours; it is a beautiful but not laſting flower, and is commonly found in borders under walls. The venus's looking-glaſs is likewiſe ſown in much the ſame manner. White hellebore is propagated from off-ſets parted in March, in a ſoil that is light and rich.

Primroſes will grow in almoſt any ſoil. The ſeed is ſown in the natural ground about the latter end of this month; and the ſeedling plants, which will not bloſſom till the ſecond year, muſt be ſown in a nurſery, and the young plants removed to proper places the Auguſt after they are come up.

The ſtock gilly-flower is a ſhrub raiſed from ſeeds ſown in this month, and tranſplanted the Autumn following. It loves a light dry ſoil; and the double kinds of them, which we find amongſt the ſeedling plants, may be increaſed by ſlips or cuttings planted in May, June, or July; which being tranſplanted into pots, are, for their grateful ſmell, a proper ornament for the niceſt places in the garden, and to adorn chimnies.

The ſeveral ſorts of double wall-flowers may be raiſed from ſlips planted in ſhady places, either in March, April, May, or June; but the bloody flower may be more eaſily propagated from in March.

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The ſun-flowe
large borders, where it

it will grow in the ſhade, and almoſt any ſoil. Everlaſting double and ſingle ſun-flowers are raiſed by parting the roots in this month, or at Michaelmas.

The paſſion-tree is raiſed either from layers or ſeeds ſown this month; and if you plant the cuttings in May or June in fine earth, they will take root: it muſt be fixed in a place that is moiſt and cool, and be often watered. It will bear fruit ſhaped like lemons, and of the ſame colour. You cannot fail of fruit if you lay plenty of cow-dung about the roots, and water them often during the flowering ſeaſon. It is called the paſſion tree by the contrivance of ſome Spaniſh friars, who, by adding ſome things wanting in the natural flower, made it as a repreſentation of our Saviour's Paſſion.

The juniper tree is a plant ſo pliable, that it may be brought to any form whatever: a barren ſoil is beſt; the berries muſt be ſown in rich ground without watering. They will come up in about two months, and they muſt remain in the ſeed-bed two years before they will be fit to tranſplant.

The palm-tree is a green-houſe plant, but might be made to ſtand abroad, after being ſheltered three or four years. It is produced by ſetting the ſtone of the fruit in light earth this month, and giving them the aſſiſtance of a hot-bed.

Produce of the month.

We have now, excluſive of the ſallads the preceding month, ſome purſlane, with young tops of tarragon. Sprouts of cabbages, young cabbage

cabbage plants, or coleworts, and Winter ſpinach. Carrots ſown in July, radiſhes of Michaelmas, red beet, and ſome few late ſown turneps.

In the hot-beds we have kidney-beans and ſome peas: and cucumbers upon the plants raiſed in January; we have alſo aſparagus upon the hot-bed made in February, preferable to thoſe of the preceding months. And, towards the end of this month, the radiſhes ſown upon the hot-bed in February will be fit to draw.

At the end of this month we have ſome ſcarlet ſtrawberries ripe upon the hot-beds; and alſo ſome few beans, if we forward them by artificial heats. Fruits yet laſting, are pears and apples of ſeveral ſorts, with nuts, almonds, &c. We have in ſome gardens ripe cherries and green apricots.

The flowers that blow this month are crocus, daiſies, violets, wall-flowers, ſtock gilly-flowers, iris's of different ſorts, hepatica's, crown imperial, primroſes double and ſingle, ſome kinds of fritillaria, and near the end of the month a few auricula's. Anemonies double and ſingle, hyacinths, jonquils, narciſſus, ſome precope tulips, violets, and the white polyanthus.

APRIL.

Work to be done in the Kitchen Garden.

IN the early part of the month plant kidney-beans in ſome warm ſpot; likewiſe garden-beans for a latter crop: ſow marrow-fat and other large kinds of peas: continue to ſow all ſorts

ſorts of young ſallad herbs, alſo cos, Sileſia, and cabbage lettuces; young cellery plants muſt be ſhifted into beds of rich earth, and, till they have taken root, muſt be watered every day. Draw up the earth to the ſtems of your peas and beans, keep them clear of weeds, and hough the ground between the rows. Prepare your dung to make ridges for melons and cucumbers, and ſow ſweet marjoram, thyme, and other aromatic plants. The ſtems of your cabbage and cauliflower plants, which were planted in Autumn, or early in the Spring, muſt be earthed up cloſe; let this be done after a ſhower of rain.

Plant cuttings or ſlips of roſemary and lavender, eſpecially after rain. Near the end of the month hough carrots, parſneps, and onions, leaving the two firſt about five or ſix, and the latter about three or four inches diſtance. Continue to make plantations of ſtrawberries till the middle of the month.

In open borders ſow ſmall ſallads, ſuch as creſſes, muſtard, turnep, or rape and radiſh: ſow ſeeds of thyme, and other aromatic herbs, which muſt not be delayed longer than the latter end of this month: ſow ſmall ſeeds ſhallow in the earth if the ſoil is heavy, if it is a light, ſandy ground, they muſt be ſown deeper.

Make ridges for cucumbers and melons for a full crop, and prune the melon plants upon the forward ridge from all ſuperfluous branches; but this is to be done very carefully, without lifting up the runners from the ground, which might bruiſe the tender branches, and endanger the whole plant. They may be raiſed under bell-glaſſes, or oiled paper, covered over two hoop-ſticks,

ſticks ſtuck in the ground, one acroſs the other, the ſize of a bell-glaſs.

If the weather be dry and windy, you are to ſtake up all new-planted trees, if that work was neglected in the preceding month, watering them well once in eight or ten days. Defend trees and plants from ſnails and ſlugs, which in this month make great deſtruction in the kitchen-garden.

In the Fruit Garden.

All ſuckers muſt be removed from fig-trees, which are now apt to ſend forth plentifully. The apples that remain to be grafted may be compleated this month, which is the beſt time for grafting between the bark and the wood.

You muſt watch the new planted vines, and not ſuffer above one ſhoot, or two at moſt, to remain. The only thing you are to endeavour to accompliſh is, to get large bearing wood as ſoon as poſſible, which may be effected by taking away the ſmalleſt ſhoots; the head being diſburdened, the root is ſtrengthened of courſe. Rub off ſuch young ſhoots of new-planted trees againſt walls as direct themſelves forward, leaving only thoſe which ſhoot ſideways.

New planted trees ſhould be often refreſhed with water, and have either a ſemicircular paving of ſmall ſtones round their roots, or a ſmall heap of weeds or graſs laid to keep them moiſt and cool.

The binding of all trees that are not thriving ſhould be this month taken off. Let your garden be kept clean, and dig borders half ſpit deep. The moſt effectual method to deſtroy the weeds,

and

and preſerve a good culture to old trees, is by repeatedly ſtirring up the earth.

The reaſon why the bloſſoms of young fruit fall off from vigorous peach-trees in this month, has been compared to a nurſe overmuch abounding with milk, by which means the child is frequently in danger of being choaked. It is on this principle that thoſe who are experienced in gardening have directed the laying the branches of trees horizontally, and keeping them free from great wood, and perpendicular ſhoots in the middle, that the ſap may be carried in that due proportion and quantity which is neceſſary. It is more eaſy to be effected by horizontal than perpendicular ſhoots.

Pear and apple-trees that are barren muſt be managed thus; take off the ſtrongeſt branches about a quarter of an inch, according to the bigneſs of the branch, cutting it entirely away to the wood. They will continue to bear fruit for ſome years; and when they die, you will always find in the pear-tree a ſufficient number of others to ſucceed them.

Cherry-trees that are not in a thriving way muſt be dealt with thus; ſlit down the tree perpendicularly with the point of a knife, juſt entering the bark of the ſtem to prevent their being hide-bound, becauſe the grain of the bark, contrary to moſt other trees, runs horizontally. If this operation is not executed, it will remain in an unthriving ſtate for ten or fifteen years; but after they have been thus dealt with, they will thrive and proſper amazingly.

The gardener muſt now be particularly careful to deſtroy all ſnails and ſlugs, which are very detrimental to the young wall-fruit. The only

means

means to effect this is to wrap about the ſtem of a tree two or three rounds of line, or rope made of horſe-hair, ſuch as are generally uſed to hang cloaths on; theſe are ſo full of ſtubs and ſtraggling points of the hair, that neither a ſnail nor ſlug can paſs over them, without being killed; ſo that the head of the tree, if it be a ſtandard or dwarf, can receive no hurt, if the bottom of the ſtem is properly ſecured.

When the hair is very ſhort that forms theſe lines it is by far the beſt; for then they will be full of points, and compleatly armed againſt any attempts of theſe deſtructive vermin. In eſpaliers of fruit-trees it is only neceſſary to wrap theſe hair-lines about the ſtems of trees near the root, and about the bottom of every ſtake, which is to be done in the Winter when the ſnails are laid up in cloſe quarters. In order to preſerve plants and herbs, which are liable to be deſtroyed by ſlugs or ſnails, the hair-lines are to be faſtened about the edges of the beds in which they are planted.

In the Flower Garden.

This month and the beginning of the next, ſow the ſeeds of the carnation, a flower of all others the moſt delightful as well for its agreeable ſmell as beautiful colours. The compoſt proper for this flower is made of ſandy loam, and well conſumed melon earth, one load of the latter to two of the former; they muſt be well ſifted together, and let them lie in a heap for ſome time to mellow; then ſift it a ſecond time, either to ſow the ſeeds in, or to plant your layers on. When you have filled your pot with

with this earth, and ſmoothed the top, ſprinkle on your ſeeds, and after having covered them with the ſame compoſt, preſs it gently with a board, and let them ſtand open to the air; the ſeed will come up in about three weeks, and the young plants be fit to tranſplant into beds the July following, where they muſt be ſet about ten inches diſtant from each other, and ſhaded from the ſun with mats for about three weeks, uncovering them every night, that the dews may refreſh them.

The different kinds of this flower are divided into five claſſes, and are diſtinguiſhed by the names of piketees, painted ladies, beazarts, flakes and flames: the piketees are of a white ground, ſpotted colour, or pounced with red or purple; the painted ladies have their petals tinged on the upper ſide, either with red or purple, and the under ſide of the leaves is plain white; the beazarts are ſtriped with four diſtinct colours; the flakes are of two colours or more, always ſtriped; and the flames have a red ground ſtriped with black or very dark colours. Each of theſe claſſes is very numerous, but the piketees abundantly ſo. As tulips are the glory of the Spring, ſo theſe flowers are the pride of the Summer. The ſeeds of this flower are gathered the latter end of September, in dry weather, with the ſtalks they grow upon, and they muſt remain expoſed to the ſun through a glaſs for a month or two, without opening any of the huſks till the time of ſowing the ſeeds.

Now ſow in the natural ground all foreign ſeeds, and ſuch flowering ſeeds as have been omitted the preceding month. Sow ſcarlet beans, and when they are grown up faſten them properly

to a wall, where the branches will advantageouſly ſpread. The ſeed is annually ſown this month in good ground well expoſed to the ſun. Sow ſcabious and marygolds, and part and ſet all fibrous rooted plants.

About the beginning of this month your auricula ſeeds will appear above ground, and are to be carefully watered; and thoſe auricula which are now in their bloom, ſhould be refreſhed with moderate waterings every three days; but they are to be guarded againſt the ſun and rains.

After rain clip your edgings of box. Sow pine and fir ſeeds, covering them with a net to keep them from the birds: this is the beſt time of the Spring to remove all ſorts of ever-greens. If the weather be moiſt it is not yet too late to make layers of jeſſamine, honeyſuckle, roſes, and ſuch like ſhrubs.

Inſtructions relative to the manure of the month.

Melon ſeeds are ſown on the hot-bed for ridge plants the beginning of March, and about a week after ſowing they are fit to plant out four inches apart, where they are to remain till their firſt leaf is about the bigneſs of a crown piece; when the ſecond or third joint appears, you muſt cut off the prime leader from each plant near the ear-leaves, and they will each of them quickly put out three other runners, which will produce fruit in abundance; thoſe are commonly pruned at every third or fourth joint.

About the latter end of April, the plants they raiſed will be fit to plant on ridges, which are thus made: cut a trench about two feet and a half

half wide, and ſixteen inches deep, in which lay horſe-litter, prepared as for a hot-bed, about two feet thick, ſpread equally and trod gently; then at the diſtance of about four feet, in the middle of the ridge, you are to make holes ten inches over and ſix deep, which are to be filled with earth prepared for that purpoſe. When this is done, the whole muſt be covered with the ſame earth, about five inches thick; and the beds are to be made four feet wide and flat. Two or three days after the ridges are made, plant two melon plants in each hole, and cover them with glaſſes and mats.

Of kidney-beans there are two ſorts; the one bears early and near the root, without running high, called the Batterſea bean; the other grows near ſix feet high. Theſe beans muſt be ſown the firſt week in this month, in a light freſh ſoil, making drills from north to ſouth, and laying the beans in them about four inches aſunder, covering them with earth, raiſed in a ridge, to keep the wet from them. The lines of the Batterſea beans ſhould be two feet apart; and the other kind are to be ſowed in rows, like the rounceval peas, having alleys between them two feet and a half wide: the Batterſea kind need not be ſtaked: but the others will not bear well, unleſs they are ſtaked. From the firſt ſowing in this month, we may once every three weeks, till the middle of July, continue to ſow freſh ground with kidney-beans to ſucceed one another; obſerving, that when the ground is very dry, as in June and July, and the weather hot, we muſt water the drills as ſoon as we have opened them, before we put in the ſeed, which will contribute to their vegetation; but

after they are ſown, we muſt avoid watering them. The Batterſea beans, out of curioſity, may be ſown in hot beds the firſt week in September, and they will produce beans fit to gather in January.

It is the buſineſs of a gardener, if he has ground enough, to provide ſo many crops of peas as may furniſh a table throughout the whole Summer: about November or December is ſown the firſt crop; and the Charlton, or maſter hotſpur, are the moſt proper for that ſeaſon, ſown in drills about two or three feet aſunder, the lines running from north to ſouth: in February a ſecond crop of the ſame kind of peas ſhould be ſown; and in March we may put in a third of the ſame ſort: about the beginning of April ſome ground may be prepared for the dwarf-peas, which ſeldom riſe higher than half a foot, and are ſet four or five inches apart, in lines about eighteen inches diſtant from one another: there is a ſort of dwarf peas may be ſown in May or June, to have a conſtant ſupply of young peas; the ſmalleſt ſort are ſown in edgings, and being ſown upon a gentle hot bed the firſt week in September, will produce peas in the Winter.

Roſemary and lavender grow beſt in a light ſandy ſoil, and are raiſed from ſlips planted in this month, which quickly take root if they are ſhoots of the laſt year, but if older, they will not grow: theſe herbs are apt to ſuffer by froſts, and ſhould be planted in the dryeſt and warmeſt part of the garden.

The products of the month.

Upon natural beds in gardens near London, we have plenty of aſparagus, but in the more ſouthern parts of England it is cut ſooner by a fortnight. We have plenty of cucumbers and muſhrooms, that were ſown on hot beds made the beginning of February. Young radiſhes are now very plentiful; and towards the end of the month ſome of the Dutch brown lettuce, which have ſtood the Winter, will begin to cabbage. Sallads on the natural ground are, creſſes, radiſh, turnip, and muſtard; and the other herbs proper to mix with them are, young onions, terregon, and burnet. There are ſcallions, leeks, and ſweet herbs, growing of all ſorts. Young carrots, ſown in Autumn, and ſome ſprouts from the old ſtems of cabbages and coleworts, or young cabbage plants: radiſh tops are at this time a very good ſallad.

There are ſeveral ſorts of fruit that are now ripe; cherries and large green apricots are to be found in plenty in fruit gardens; alſo ripe ſtrawberries, upon thoſe plants which have been aſſiſted by hot beds.

Be careful to water your pine apples often, in the heat of the day giving them air, and if they want larger pots, tranſplant them.

The flowers that blow this month are, auriculas, polyanthus's, tulips, daiſies, hepatica, iris's, wall flower, roſemary, tanſies, ranuncula, gentianellas, crown imperial, double cuckow flower, ſea pink, double paradiſe, ſyringas, fritillaries, laurus tinus, ſtar of Bethlehem, marſh marigold, caliurus, and lilly of the valley.

MAY.

Buſineſs of the Kitchen Garden.

TAKE out all the plants from the roots of your artichoaks, which have been produced ſince the old ſtocks were ſlipped, and cut off all the ſmall artichoaks from the ſides of the ſtems. If it is likely to rain ſow turnips, hoe thoſe ſowed laſt month, and in open ground ſow cucumbers for pickling. Towards the latter end of the month, if the weather is favourable, tranſplant the tomatos for ſoups, and the capſicum for pickling, which have been raiſed upon hot beds; and if the weather is dry, water them often. You may forward the cabbaging of your early cabbages, by tying their leaves together with a withy or baſs mat. Deſtroy all manner of weeds in your garden-beds, before they ſhed their ſeed. Sow peas and beans in a moiſt ſoil for a latter crop. About the middle of the month plant cauliflowers for Winter uſe; keep the ground moiſt, and ſhade the beds every day with mats. Plant out the red and white cabbages and ſavoys for Winter uſe. Tranſplant the firſt ſown cellery into drills for blanching; draw the earth about the ſtems of the cauliflowers, cabbage plants, beans, or any other crop. In the heat of the day ſhade the cucumbers under frames with mats, but let the melons in warm weather have air. Tranſplant Sileſia, cos, and imperial lettuces, to ſucceed thoſe of the laſt month.

In

In the Fruit Garden.

You muſt be very careful to thin peaches and apricots of their ſuperabundant fruit, for too many on a tree make the whole inſipid; and therefore two upon one branch are eſteemed ſufficient. You muſt now take away all dry, withered branches from wall trees, and be careful to cleanſe them from ſnails, cankers, &c. Cut off the extremities of the ſhoots of gooſberries, which will in a great meaſure prevent or kill the canker-worm.

Tie up the ſhoots of the vine to the props, leaving only three or four of the ſtrongeſt ſhoots. Looſen or diſengage ſuch branches of the vine as will be obſerved ſometimes to be bound between the joints of the wall, or behind the larger wood. About the latter end of the month begin to nail the moſt forward branches of the vine, where fruit is cloſe to the wall, and be careful to pick off all fruitleſs ſhoots.

In the Flower Garden.

Your choice tulips muſt be ſhaded from the heat of the ſun, and defended from rain; when they have done flowering break off their ſeed-pods.

The ficoides, which is propagated by the cuttings being planted abroad in a natural bed of earth in this month, will be fit to put in pots in Auguſt, where it may remain in the open air till the latter end of September: ſome kinds of this plant are annual, and therefore muſt be raiſed from ſeeds every year; and one ſort of it

will

will ſtand the Winter, if we raiſed young plants of it about July or Auguſt, that do not bloſſom three or four months. The ſhrub kinds which have their ſtalks woody will bear moderate watering, but the others, which are more ſucculent, muſt have very little water. Theſe plants muſt have the benefit of the ſun to open their bloſſoms, unleſs two kinds, which only flower in the night. The cuttings of theſe plants ſhould not be planted till the ſun has dried up the wounded parts.

The torch-thiſtle bears no leaves. It is a ſucculent plant, propagated from cuttings, planted between May and the end of July; they muſt be planted upon a little hill in the middle of the pot, for they can hardly endure water; they muſt ſtand abroad about twenty days to take root, before put into the hot-bed, obſerving to water them at their firſt putting in pot; and during the Summer months they may now and then be gently refreſhed: the beſt compoſt for theſe plants is the rubbiſh of old walls, mixed with about one third of ſandy ſoil.

The myrtle tree is increaſed by layers in this month; the youngeſt ſhoots that are tender muſt be bent into the earth after it is well ſtirred, and being often refreſhed with water, will take root, and be fit to take off from the mother plants the Spring following. The cuttings of this tree are planted in July, ſtripping off the leaves two inches from each cutting, and ſetting that depth about an inch apart, in pots of fine light earth, watering them frequently till they have taken root, which will be about the latter end of Auguſt: this young plantation is to remain till the ſecond of March before they are tranſplanted into

into ſingle pots. Near the middle of April ſuch old trees as are in a bad ſtate may be pruned about the roots, and have freſh earth put to them; their branches muſt be cut within three or four inches of the ſtem.

The pyracintha is an evergreen plant, raiſed from cuttings, planted in this month or June; the cuttings, which are to be freſh tender twigs, are to be planted in pots of fine earth, and watered frequently, keeping them from the ſun till the following Winter, at which time a warm expoſure will cheriſh them, and prepare them to make ſtrong ſhoots in the Spring. It may alſo be raiſed by ſeeds and layers. A light gravelly ſoil, unmixed with dung, or other rich manure, is by far the beſt.

Manure of the month.

The induſtrious gardener will now be daily viſiting the kitchen and fruit garden, not only diſciplining the barren, but encouraging the weak plants. All new planted trees are to be watched, leſt ſome of them, for want of ſeaſonable help, ſhould pine and languiſh; therefore ſuch as are found in a declining ſtate muſt be ſheltered with boards and mats; for though the ſun gives life and motion to vegetable nature, yet thoſe that are weak are apt to be overpowered with its heat, and on its too frequent and ſudden returns will certainly die away. The analogy between plants and animals is ſufficiently ſhewn in this obſervation, and particularly the human race; for we frequently find, in a ſevere ſeaſon, the bodies of ſome men will be ſenſibly injured by a too ſudden approach to a large fire.

An operation muſt be performed towards the latter end of this month, which is, by ſhortening luxuriant branches in all fruit-trees, except vines, to two inches of the place from whence they ſhoot: Winter pruning, inſtead of taking from, gives vigour to a tree; but this operation now, when Nature is in its full career, gives a great damp and check to its courſe. The ſhortening luxuriant branches this month reſpects not only ſuch branches as are intended to be left to fill a void place, but alſo all vigorous ſhoots made from the place of inoculation in the nurſery, as well as the ſame mode from new planted trees, eſpecially apricots and peaches, which are apt, from too much vigour, to be in very great danger. In the Summer trees of all kinds may be thus tranſplanted.

Produce of the month.

We have this month great plenty of aſparagus, and collyflowers are now in perfection. The imperial royal Sileſia, and other ſorts of cabbage lettuces, are in their prime, and very proper ſallads for this ſeaſon, mixed with young burnet, purſlain, the flowers of the ſmall naſturtium, and cucumbers.

Carrots which were ſown on hot beds in February are now very good; but thoſe remaining of the crop ſown at Michaelmas are paſt uſe: we have ſtill ſome kidney beans on hot beds. This month produces plenty of artichoaks; and peas and beans which were ſown in October may be now gathered.

Pears and apples of different ſorts ſtill remain eatable. We have now green gooſeberries for tarts,

tarts, and towards the end of the month we have ripe ſcarlet ſtrawberries in the natural ground; likewiſe the common May cherry, with ſome few of the May duke cherries againſt walls, and green apricots for tarts.

The flowers that blow this month are, columbines, tulips, peonies, double jonquils, ranuncula's, aſphodels, yellow lily, lychnis orchis, pinks, roſes, rockets, veronicas, ſtock gillyflower, ſtarflower, chalcedons, crowfoot, martagon, double catchfly, Venetian vetch, arbor judæ, bee flowers, campanellas, honeyſuckles, buglos, moly, cyanus, cytiſus, and iris's.

JUNE.

Work of the month.

PLANTS of all ſorts muſt be carefully preſerved from the violent heat of the ſun; thoſe that have been already tranſplanted muſt be moderately watered about their extreme fibres: the evening is the beſt time to do this ſort of work. You muſt not cut aſparagus after the firſt week of this month, as it will very much impoveriſh the roots. In dry weather gather ſeeds of all ſorts that are ripe, and ſpread them to dry before their huſks or pods are rubbed or beaten. This is the proper ſeaſon for diſtilling moſt ſorts of herbs. Shade your melon plants in the heat of the day, and water the alleys between the beds. Deſtroy all ſnails and weeds. Plant the late crop of kidny beans, lettuces for a late crop, and likewiſe endive. The buſineſs in the kitchen garden is little this month, except weeding and watering.

In

In the Fruit Garden.

The ſhoots of peaches, whoſe leaves are infected by blights, and begin to appear curled at the extremities, are to be carefully pruned off. Peaches, apricots, and plumbs, expect their Summer nailing, and likewiſe pruning, to let the ſun come to the fruit, and avoid too much confuſion.

You muſt now check the luxuriant growth of vines by a Summer pruning, wherein the branches muſt be ſhortened at the fourth or fifth bud beyond the fruit; but if a vigorous branch be wanted to fill a void place next year, it is beſt to let that particular branch alone till October. Nail or otherwiſe faſten thoſe branches of grapes which project too much, and thoſe unprofitable roots which were not before diſcovered, muſt be taken off.

In the Flower Garden.

We have this month the ſaffron crocus, a plant of great uſe as well as beauty; the leaves appear as ſoon as the flower is paſt, and remain all the Winter, which in the Spring ſhould be tied together in knots, to help the increaſe of the roots. About Midſummer they will be fit to remove or tranſplant: it chiefly delights in a chalky ground, but it will alſo proſper in a ſandy ſoil: the piſtillum contains the ſaffron uſed in medicine. The roots of the ſeveral kinds of this plant may be taken out of the ground in this month, and replanted with other bulbs; they love a light ſoil, and may be increaſed by off ſets.

This

This is a proper time to clip edgings of box, ever-green hedges, &c. eſpecially after rain.

Let your pine-apples be frequently watered, and in the heat of the day give them air; thoſe that want larger pots may be tranſplanted.

Mow graſs walks early in the morning, after rain, and continue to roll your gravel walks.

Tranſplant the roots of cyclamen, ſaffron, and colchicum. After rain continue to tranſplant annuals, and ſow others to ſucceed thoſe ſown in the former months. Gather choice aquatick plants from rivers, ponds, ditches, &c. and tranſplant them into your water-tubs, where they make a pretty ſhew among other curious plants.

Such of your carnations as are ſtrong enough to bear it, may be laid, but be careful to pick off their moſt tender flower buds. Large podded carnations, which generally burſt, are now to be helped, by opening the other ſide of the pod with a fine penknife, without touching the flower leaves: earwigs, which infeſt theſe flowers, may be deſtroyed with ox-hoofs and tobacco-pipes.

Product of the Month.

Batterſea and ſugar-loaf cabbages are now fit to cut. You may draw young carrots and onions ſown in February, and ſome young parſneps. The pot-herbs in uſe the preceding month are ſtill good: and the flower-ſtems of burrage and burnet are good in cool-tankards. We have now melons of the firſt ridges.

The ſallads of this month are compoſed of purſlain, burnet, the flowers of naſturtium indi-

cum, and cabbage-lettuces of various ſorts, with ſome blanched endive and cucumbers. Artichoaks, garden-beans, peas, kidney-beans and cauliflowers are in great perfection the beginning of this month.

Till about the end of the month you may gather green gooſeberries for tarts. The ripe fruits are ſtrawberries, raſberries and currants; we have likewiſe cherries of many kinds, as the duke, white, black, and red hearts. We have alſo codlings fit for uſe, and near the end of the month ſome genettings and the maſculine apricot, peaches and nectarines, together with grapes, are now ripe in the forcing frames. Winter pears and apples are yet laſting. In the bark-beds ananas or pine-apples. Obſerve to net your cherries againſt the walls, or dwarfs, to prevent their being deſtroyed by the birds.

The flowers that blow this month are, campanula, convolvulus, lychnis, ſnapdragons, amaranthus, antirrhinum, pinks, naſturtium indicum, fraxinella, jaſmines, carnations, honey-ſuckles, panſies, roſes, campions, poppies, marygolds, ſtock gilliflowers, cornflag, ſatyrions, candy-tufts, monkſhood, tube-roſes, digitalis or foxglove, and hollyhocks.

JULY.

The buſineſs of the month.

THE exerciſes in the garden are now for the moſt part gathering in the fruit of our labour beſtowed in the Winter and Spring months; for we are arrived at that happy ſeaſon which affords

affords us almoſt every variety the kitchen garden can produce. In order to preſerve a further ſupply, you muſt now ſow the laſt crop of kidney-beans, in a ſituation defended from morning froſts in Autumn. Plant cellery into drills for blanching, and continue to ſow all ſorts of ſmall ſallad herbs. On dry evenings, water ſuch plants as have lately been tranſplanted, and carefully deſtroy the weeds in every part of the garden. Give no water to your melons, which now begin to ripen. Repair your young aſparagus beds, and plant in moiſt weather freſh plants, where any have failed: water, duly in dry weather, the cucumbers brought up under hand-glaſſes; tranſplant the cellery into beds, which was ſown in May, and ſome endive, to ſucceed that planted the former month. Clear your artichoaks from weeds, and break down cloſe to the ſurface of the ground the ſtems of thoſe fit for uſe on the old ſtocks; make a bed for muſhroons as directed in February, and cover it very thin with earth. About the cloſe of the month, ſow ſpinach for Winter uſe; coleworts, carrots and onions for Spring uſe; tranſplant broccoli and cabbages for Spring uſe; and plant out cauliflowers for the Autumn crop: tranſplant all kinds of lettuce ſown laſt month; deſtroy the different ſorts of pernicious inſects, which abound this month.

In the Flower Garden.

In the vineyard carefully tie the fruit branches to the props or eſpaliers, and diligently remove all weak and fruitleſs ſhoots, either by pinching or the knife, and keep them free from weeds all

the Summer; the much better way in Winter is to fork up the ground inſtead of digging it. The vines are now in their full ſtrength, and puſh with the utmoſt vigour; inſomuch that the greateſt confuſion imaginable will enſue, if they are neglected and left unpruned.

Apricots are now to be expoſed to the ſun, by taking off ſome of the leaves, that the fruit may take its proper beauty and colour; and the latter end of the month the peaches muſt be treated in the ſame manner. If any ſtrong wood or water ſhoots puſh from the apricot or peach-tree this month, unleſs a void place wants to be filled, they ought to be entirely taken away; but their young ſhort branches are to be carefully preſerved by nailing them to the wall.

You muſt now pay attention to the pear-tree, which, if over vigorous, muſt be properly diſciplined; and all branches that puſh forward are ſtill to be cut off two inches. You may continue inoculation, eſpecially after wet weather.

A plentiful application of water to a peach-tree full of fruit is a great advantage to the ſwelling and ripening of the fruit. The fruit-trees that are in pots muſt be now daily watered, otherwiſe their fruit will drop off: but with this care they will perform wonders. Fruit near the ground (if not too near) have a double advantage, and may be expected to be large and firſt ripe.

Snails, waſps, flies, earwigs, &c. being this month the great enemies to wall-fruit, particularly nectarines, the moſt effectual methods for their deſtruction are to be put in practice. In this and the preceding month, weeding ought to be

be diligently minded, that the borders of fruit-trees, &c. and alleys may be kept clean.

Lay carnations as they gather ſtrength, and often refreſh them with water. Sow tulip-ſeeds, which are now ripe, in caſes of light earth; ſow alſo ſome anemony ſeeds and annuals in edgings, to blow in September.

Continue to make cuttings of the torch-thiſtle, Indian fig, tythimals, ſedums, and other ſucculent plants. Raiſe myrtles of cuttings, according to the directions given in May. Lay down young ſhoots of the Arabian jeſſamine. Set coffee-tree berries, which are now ripe; and the fruit of the ananas. Roll your gravel walks well after rain.

In the Fruit Garden.

The management of the vine being a very principal concern this month, we ſhall ſay ſomething farther relating to it.

It has been obſerved, that, from a vigorous ſhoot of a vine already once pruned, there will puſh again ſeveral Midſummer ſhoots weaker than the former, from the firſt, ſecond, and third bud, towards the extremity; which ſhoots are to be taken off, only remembering that it is proper to ſpare the laſt of ſuch ſhoots, ſo far as to leave one bud upon it, from whence nature may exert itſelf a third time in Autumn: for if thoſe ſhoots were all entirely removed, the vine would puſh at thoſe bearing buds which lie at the bottom of the ſhoots; the effect whereof would be either the want of fruit at thoſe places next year, or a neceſſity of pruning the branch ſhorter than was intended, or is convenient in the Winter.

Grapes being expoſed to the ſun this month will not receive any danger; for though the vines appear thin of leaves and wood, that fault will be recovered by the ſhoots in Autumn.

In order to deſtroy waſps and other inſects, which now devour the peaches, apricots, and other fruits, place phials of honey and ale near the trees, and you will ſoon catch a large quantity of them. Renew the bottles once every week. Cover your grapes with nets, to prevent the birds getting at them.

Water, having a large quantity of walnut tree leaves ſteeped in it a fortnight or three weeks, being poured on the ground, will deſtroy worms, and make them quit their holes; and they may be taken by a candle and lanthorn in a Summer's evening after rain.

In a dry ſeaſon, if you take lime and brine, and pot-aſhes decocted in water, and caſt it on your graſs-plats, it will not only deſtroy the worms, but improve the graſs; and a decoction of tobacco refuſe will deſtroy worms in gravel walks.

Produce of the month.

The ſallads for this month are cabbage-lettuces, purſlane, tarragon, burnet, young onions, cucumbers, flowers of the naſturtium indicum, and ſome endive blanched.

We have now great plenty of melons, artichoaks, cauliflowers, cabbages, young carrots, turneps and beet, peas, garden beans, and kidney-beans. And alſo all ſorts of herbs for the kitchen; which are now very good, eſpecially if the gardener has remembered from time to time to cut them down for ſhooting afreſh.

Small

Small cucumbers for pickling are in their prime; and this is the beſt month for the pickling of them.

The different fruits we have this month are, gooſeberries, currants, raſberries, cherries, early plums, jenetting and codling apples, apricots, peaches and nectarines; and towards the end of the month we have figs and ſome of the July grapes. The peaches are good for little yet, but the apricots are in full perfection.

There is one ſort among peaches peculiar, called the bourdine, which ſucceeds very well in a ſtandard, as the apricot; and if it be ſituated in a warm place, and not carried up too high in the ſtem, will bear very well: this and the ſtandard apricot-trees require only the ſame management with orchard fruit-trees. The wall peaches muſt be treated with a great deal of care, for the quantity and excellence of their fruit will be in proportion. Theſe kinds of peaches, like the ſeveral apricots, are all varieties from one original ſtock or kind: they have been raiſed by planting the ſtones of fine peaches, for theſe trees vary from ſeed like flowers. The firſt ſtock may be from a nurſery, but it will be worth while to raiſe new kinds this way afterwards. The peaches which ripen in the beginning of Auguſt ſhould be choſen for this purpoſe, and ſuch as have a thin ſkin, a yellowiſh, juicy fleſh, and a ſmall ſtone, ſticking to the fleſh, not parting from it. Some of the choiceſt of theſe ſhould hang on the tree till they drop off, and the ſtones of theſe ſhould be planted in a ſmall bed of the nurſery ſix weeks afterwards. The young plants are to be managed in the ſame manner as tender ſhrubs or plants of other kinds,

and

and at two years growth are to be planted in the places deſigned for them, with the ſame care, and in the very ſame manner, as directed for apricots. They muſt remain in their new places till they have borne fruit; and after the ſecond year of fruiting their value will be diſcovered: thoſe that are bad muſt be pulled up, and the fine ones propagated by inoculating them on ſtocks in the general manner. The beſt ſtocks for the early kinds are the almond, and for the others the muſcle plum. Theſe ſtocks are to be raiſed from the ſtone, and trees planted at one year old, to prevent their ſending down great top roots; and after two years more growth in the nurſery they will be fit for this purpoſe. When the trees are to be brought to the places where they are to ſtand, they muſt be taken up with care early in Autumn, the roots trimmed, the trees carefully planted, and all the branches nailed ſlightly to the wall: they are to be defended during the Winter, by laying turfs at their roots the wrong ſide upwards.

The flowers that blow this month are, baſils, geraniums, gladiolus, clematis, or virgin's bower, African marygolds, thlaſpi creticum, veronica, lark-heels, lupines, ſcabious, marvel of Peru, lobels, catch-flies, lillies of all ſorts, apples of love, marygolds, female balſams, dittany, paſſion flower, cardinal-flower, ſun-flower, and valerian.

AUGUST.

AUGUST.

Work to be done in the Kitchen Garden.

AS the firſt part of this month is generally hot and dry, frequent waterings are neceſſary, which muſt be carefully attended to, as well as the deſtruction of vermin.

About the middle of the month, or towards the latter end, ſow ſome common cabbage-lettuce, and brown Dutch lettuce, to be planted under frames, to come up early in the Spring; alſo cos and Sileſia lettuces. Sow cauliflower ſeed for the early crop under bell or hand-glaſſes. Weed your beds of coleworts ſown laſt month; if the plants are too thick, draw ſome of them out and tranſplant them. Sow your early Batterſea and Yorkſhire cabbage ſeed. Earth up your cellery in dry weather; tie up your full grown endive, manage your artichoaks as before directed; gather your cucumbers for pickling; ſow turneps for a latter crop; hough your ſpinach ſown laſt month, and gather your ſeeds as before directed. In moiſt weather cut off the flowering branches of thoſe aromatic plants which are paſt flowering, that they may make new ſhoots before Winter.

In the Fruit Garden.

We are now to review the laying peaches and apricots open to the ſun to perfect their ripening. Continue the pruning of thoſe vines that were neglected the laſt month, and keep the fruit

fruit as close to the wall as possible; but the grapes are now to be discreetly shaded with leaves, and sufficiently defended against the cold nights, at the latter end of the month.

In gathering apricots this and the other months, great care is to be used that you do not break the branch whereon they grow; because from thence we are to expect another bearing branch the succeeding year.

The borders are now to be reviewed and kept clean; and at the latter end of this month give them a stirring, the better to receive the autumnal rains.

Give the ever-green hedges and pyramids a second clipping, which in a wet season will be much wanted. Make layers of all sorts of shrubs and trees, which remain abroad all Winter, observing always to lay down the most tender shoots.

There being little more to be done this month in the fruit garden than what has been directed in the former months, we shall proceed to the works

In the Flower Garden.

The tulip-tree is a plant of the wood, and should be set among such trees as are designed for groves, where it will rise to a great height; its leaves are somewhat like those of the maple, and the flowers have some resemblance of a tulip, which gave name to the tree. The seeds of this tree, which are brought from Virginia, are to be sown in pots this month, and sheltered all the Winter, and the Spring following they will come up. The young plants may be transplanted into pots, at two years growth, and must have shelter in the Winter for

for the firſt nine years at leaſt, till they have gathered ſtrength enough to reſiſt the ſeverity of our froſts, and they may then be planted in the natural ground; a ſandy ſoil is the beſt. This time of ſowing of ſeeds muſt be obſerved, becauſe experience has ſhewn they are not to be raiſed in the Spring.

The bulbous violet, or ſnow-drop, is reckoned amongſt the daffodils. It is one of the moſt early flowers in the Spring, generally blowing in January.

The hyacinth will bear the ſeverity of our froſts, and blows early in the Spring; it is increaſed from off ſets of the roots, planted the latter end of this month, or in September, in beds of ſandy ſoil. The tuberous hyacinth is a plant of an aſpiring head, and a very tender nature; the roots of it muſt be taken up in April, and being carefully parted, are to be replanted in pots of prepared earth, and have the aſſiſtance of a hot-bed like other tender ſhrubs. In September you may take up the bulbs of this plant, and preſerve them in dry ſand.

Lillies are propagated by parting their roots when the leaves are fallen about July, or Auguſt, and delight in an open ſandy ſoil: they are very proper flowers for the middle of borders in great gardens, or to be planted under hedges in long walks; and the ſtriped white lilly is ſo great a rarity as to deſerve place in the niceſt garden. The orange lilly is very ornamental in gardens, and an agreeable companion for the white lilly. The lilly of the valley delights in ſhady ground, and is eaſily increaſed from plants.

Produce

Produce of the month.

We have now ſallads compoſed of cabbage lettuces, creſſes, muſtard, cucumbers, radiſh, with a mixture of tarragon. We have horſe-radiſh, plenty of cucumbers for pickling, all ſorts of kitchen herbs, and towards the end we cut cellery.

There are artichoaks, cauliflowers, beans, peas, and kidney-beans, cabbages and cabbage ſprouts, beets, carrots and turneps, but other boiling roots muſt not yet be uſed. We have likewiſe muſk-melons in great abundance.

Although the preſent produce is very extenſive, yet we have ſeveral roots and herbs of the laſt year, ſuch as rocambole, ſhalots, onions, garlick, &c.

We have variety of fruits this month, ſuch as apricots, peaches, and nectarines; ſeveral ſorts of grapes, figs, Summer pears and apples, mulberries, and ſome filberts. Morella cherries are now ripe, and plums of various kinds. Gooſeberries, raſberries, and currants are ſtill very good.

The flowers that blow this month, are colchicum, Autumnal hyacinths, belvederes, ranunculas, cyclamens, amaranthus, ſtarwort, nigella monthly roſes, hellebore, jeſſamines, and the mallow tree.

SEPTEMBER.

Buſineſs of the month.

MAKE plantations of Dutch and brown lettuce to ſtand the Winter. Plant out cauliflowers ſown the laſt month, upon old cucumber or melon beds, and ſow Spaniſh radiſh ſpinach. In dry weather hough and clean turneps, weed the beds of ſpinach, onions, carrots, cauliflowers, cabbage plants, and coleworts.

About the middle of the month you may ſafely tranſplant moſt ſorts of annual aromatic plants. Continue to ſow ſmall ſallad herbs; gather all ſeeds as they ripen, and preſerve them as before directed. Blanch endive, tranſplant lettuces, cut down the haulm of aſparagus, and be careful to dung and hough the beds. Preſerve your young cauliflower plants from rain, prepare the ground of your Summer crops for freſh ones, or trench it up to lie till Spring free from all weeds.

Near the end of the month plant ſome beans and early peas in warm borders. Let your latter crop of cellery be tranſplanted into drills, and the laſt crop of broccoli where it is to continue. Seeds in general muſt be dried in the ſun before they are laid up, to preſerve them properly for future uſes.

[*In the* Fruit Garden.

Gather ſuch fruits as are ripe upon the trees, and others that are full grown, and in good condition to be laid up for the uſe of the following months. Such pears or apples as are fit to gather will eaſily quit the tree; therefore uſe no violence if they do not come off eaſy. A room where very little air comes is the beſt place to keep them for Winter uſe.

Before you eat Winter pears, let them be warmed by the fire as you do red port, which will very much heighten their flavour.

You may ſtill inoculate pears; but as vegetative nature has now made a conſiderable ſtop in its circulation of ſap, and the growth of moſt trees, and all kinds of delicious fruits are now ripe, we have little to do in this and the former month, but to collect and enjoy what the gardens ſo abundantly produce.

Be careful to preſerve your fruit from waſps, earwigs, and ants.

In the Flower Garden.

Let your tall flowers be ſtaked to prevent injury from the winds, which at this time blow hard. Sow the ſeeds of bulbous rooted plants, as tulips, ranunculus, crocus, &c.

Take off your carnation layers; tranſplant flowering ſhrubs of all ſorts, and make layers of them, ſuch as the honey-ſuckle, jeſſamine, virgin's bower, Virginian dogwood, periwinkle, &c. Plant your jonquil roots, and let them ſtand two or three years in the ſame place. Sow ſtock-gilliflowers

liflowers for a ſupply in the Spring. We may yet plant ever-greens, ſuch as hollies, yews, box, &c. if they riſe with good roots, but the beſt ſeaſon is Auguſt. Sow poppies, larkſpurs, annual ſtocks, candy-tufts, and Venus's looking-glaſs, to bloſſom early in the Spring.

Manure of the Month.

As the tulip is a beautiful flower, and requires particular care in its cultivation, we ſhall deſcribe it at large. It is propagated as follows: the ſtems of this flower being left remaining upon the root, will perfect their ſeeds about July, which will be fit to gather when the ſeed-veſſels begin to burſt; then they are to be cut cloſe to the ground in a dry day, and laid in ſome dry place till September, which is the moſt proper ſeaſon for ſowing them.

They love a ſoil compoſed of ſand and natural black earth, or the rubbiſh of old buildings and natural earth, but may be ſown in a natural ſoil, and the firſt year their roots will be very ſmall, but after their ſecond appearance above ground, they may be taken from the pots or caſes they were ſown in, and put in a bed of natural ſandy ſoil well ſifted, where the thickneſs of half an inch of the ſame earth ſhould be ſpread over them; and thus they are to continue, without any other culture than adding half an inch of the earth for their covering every year, till they begin to blow, which will be in five or ſix years time. In this manner tulip ſeeds are to be ſown every year for new varieties.

It is good to plant all the forward blowers in a bed together; and of the late flowering tulips,

to place the talleſt ſorts in the middle line of the bed, with two rows of the ſhorteſt blowers on each ſide. When they are planted in this month, they need no ſhelter till March, that the flower-buds appear, and then they ought to be defended from blights with mats or painted cloth ſtrained upon hoops; which covering will ſerve alſo for ſheltering the flowers from the heat of the ſun and rain, when they are blown.

There are two different claſſes of tulips; the præcore, or early blowers, and the ſerotine, or later blowers; and theſe are diſtinguiſhed by their double and ſingle flowers. They have alſo different denominations from their colours and ſtature; as bagats, which are the talleſt flowers, commonly purple and white marbled; agates, which grow ſhorter than the other, whoſe flowers are veined with two colours; and beazarts, which have four colours, tending to yellow and reds of different kinds.

The cultivation of violets in gardens is increaſed by tranſplanting their runners either in this month or in February; they will take root of themſelves at every joint, without the aſſiſtance of any art. They ſhould be planted in the moſt rural part of the garden, or near the edges of garden beds; a binding ſoil and ſhady ſituation is by far the beſt.

Annual ſtocks are ſown in ſpots, or may be uſed for edgings, their flowers being of a pink colour. You may increaſe daiſies by parting their roots either in Spring or Autumn, they make pretty edgings for flower beds.

The honeyſuckle or woodbine is a twining plant, proper to be placed about trees in avenues, to intermix its bloſſoms among their branches; or it may be trained up into a ſtandard as a headed

plant

plant in the moſt remote part of the garden. Theſe plants, and indeed all flowering ſhrubs, are beſt managed as headed plants, and planted in pots, by which means, when in flower, they may be agreeably mixed with ever-greens, and removed as ſoon as the bloſſom is over, to make room for others. They are raiſed from layers or cuttings, ordered like thoſe of the jeſſamine, in this month or October: they love ſhade, and are the natural inhabitants of the woods, where they perfume the air with their fragrant odours.

The Virginia myrtle, which bears berries, from which is drawn the green wax whereof candles are made, is propagated by ſowing the berries in pots of black ſandy earth, in this month, being kept continually moiſt.

The box-tree is valuable for its wood, and for the continued verdure of its leaves. This plant will make delightful hedges in gardens: but it delights in chalky mountains, where it will grow much quicker than in our gardens. It is raiſed by layers, ſlips, or ſeeds; and the beſt time to make layers or ſlips of it is in this month; the ſeeds of it may be ſown ſo ſoon as ripe, or laid in ſand during the Winter to be ſown the Spring following.

Produce of the Month.

The ſallads of this month are compoſed of creſſes, radiſhes, chervil, young onions, burnet, tarragon, ſome blanched cellery and endive, and lettuce.

There are yet melons and cucumbers, plenty of muſhroons upon beds and in paſture grounds, young garden peas and beans, and ſome kid-

ney-beans. Cabbages and ſprouts of cabbages in great abundance; carrots, turneps, ſkirrets, beets, onions, ſhalots, rocambole, and horſe-radiſh.

We have in this month good flowers and ſuckers from artichoaks planted in Spring; and in our kitchen garden we have ſtill plenty of cauliflowers.

The fruit-garden affords us this month grapes, peaches, and nectarines in great abundance. The old Newington peach, which is ſo much valued, is now in its greateſt perfection. There are blue and white figs, blue and white perdigran plums, the Summer bon cretien, bergamot, and other ſorts of pears. Some apples, walnuts, and filberds.

The method of preſerving ripe grapes till Chriſtmas is thus: let them be gathered when they are full ripe, and dry; cut the bunches off with three or four joints of the branch, and wax each end of the joint with ſealing wax: then hang them in a room where there is generally a fire. Melons that are full grown and not ripe, will ripen, if put in a net and hung up in a warm room.

The flowers that blow this month are, love-apples, moly, colchicums, Guernſey lilies, ſunflowers, hollyhocks, tube-roſes, double violets, ſaffron-crocus, poppies, ſtock-gilliflowers, carnations, Indian pinks, Æthiopic apples, and muſk-roſes.

OCTOBER.

Buſineſs of the Month.

IT is now time to make plantations of lettuce for Winter uſe: tranſplant cabbages and cauliflower plants; take up thoſe cauliflower plants which begin to flower, tie their leaves together, and bury their roots and ſtalks in ſand in a cellar, or ſome cool place. Cut artichoaks with long ſtalks, and preſerve them in the houſe by ſetting their ſtalks in ſand. Dreſs and earth up ſuch artichoaks as have done blowing, and continue to earth up cellery for blanching. Draw up ſome full grown endive, to plant down on the ſides of the ridges to blanch. Tranſplant lettuces upon warm borders, and keep your ſpinach, carrots, onions, &c. ſown in July and Auguſt, clean from weeds. Plant beans and peas at the beginning and end of this month upon dry grounds, and in warm ſituations. Tranſplant cauliflower plants into the places where they are to abide the Winter. Break down the inner leaves of your cauliflowers ſown in May, to defend them from froſt or wet, and earth up the ſtems of your broccoli plants; make ſome moderate hot-beds to plant mint and tanſey upon. Guard your muſhroon-beds from wet and froſt: ſpread ſome rotten dung on the beds of ſeedling aſparagus plants, and make hot beds for aſparagus, if required at table in December. Lay on the quarters of the garden the dung of your melons and cucumber beds, alſo the dung of the lay-ſtall.

Sow

Sow kidney-beans in baſkets under a ſouth-wall, to be afterwards forwarded by hot-beds, for early beans: and hotſpur-peas, and Spaniſh-beans, in ſome well expoſed border under a wall or a hedge. Sow alſo radiſhes in ſome warm place to draw early in the Spring; and creſſes, lettuce, muſtard, ſpinach, &c. upon a decayed hot-bed: put likewiſe ſome roots of mint upon a gentle hot-bed for Winter ſallads.

In the Fruit Garden.

This is the moſt proper ſeaſon for planting of peaches, apricots, and other fruit-trees, which is beſt done in untryed earth, nothing being more prejudicial to them than dung.

If the weather ſhould be moiſt or wet this month, the borders muſt be raiſed, and the trees planted high; for it is certain death to peaches and apricots to ſtand where water ſtagnates in the Winter. Vines ſhould be planted againſt walls ſeven or eight feet aſunder. The beſt ſoil for vines is the rubbiſh of old buildings, ſea-coal aſhes, or drift ſand with rotten dung, mixed with an equal quantity of natural earth.

Preſerve a good ſtock of untryed earth to be ready, on all occaſions, for fruit-trees, ever-greens and flowers.

In the Flower Garden.

Continue to tranſplant and lay roſes and ſuch like flowering ſhrubs; and to plant the cuttings of jeſſamines and honeyſuckles in ſhady borders: Sow the berries of yew, holly, and other ever-greens, prepared in earth or ſand, and if the

ſeaſon

ſeaſon be mild, theſe kinds of plants may be pruned.

Let the time of watering your houſed greens be in the morning, when the ſun ſhines upon them; but after the middle of the month you are to give no watering to your tender ſucculent plants. Be careful to keep your walks clean from autumnal leaves.

Manure of the Month.

With reſpects to ſoils for plantations of fruit-trees, it has been obſerved that vines thrive beſt in dry light ground: that peaches, plums and cherries delight in a ſandy loam; and figs, pears and apples agree with all ſorts of ſoils, provided the ground be near three feet deep. For the diſtance to be obſerved in planting of fruit-trees, a wall of ſeven or eight feet high will require the trees to be planted about ten or twelve feet aſunder; and if the walls be ten feet high, eight or ten feet aſunder; but in either caſe the peach and nectarine ſhould be planted at a much leſs diſtance than the apricot, plum or cherry.

Before you begin your plantations be careful that the ground is properly enriched for that purpoſe; the border ſhould be dug two feet deep the whole length of it, and four or ſix feet over, filling it up with a ſandy loam half a foot higher than the level; be careful to preſerve ſome of the fineſt mould near the top, to plant your trees in. Experience tells us that untryed earth dug from a waſte or common fed with cattle is the moſt agreeable for all manner of young fruit-trees.

Produce

Produce of the month.

The herbs which form ſallad this month are creſſes, chervil, muſtard, radiſh, turnep, rape, ſpinach, lettuce, burnet, tarragon, young onions, blanched cellery, and endive.

For kitchen uſe we have now parſley, beets, and all ſorts of aromatic herbs: likewiſe cauliflowers, artichoacks, peas and beans, and kidney beans ſown in July; and we have yet cucumbers, and ſome melons, with plenty of muſhrooms.

This month produces the following roots for boiling; carrots, turnips, parſnips, potatoes, ſkirrets, ſcorzonera, and beets. To uſe raw, we have onions, garlick, ſhalots, and other roots. Likewiſe ſome chardons.

The fruits of this month are, ſome of the late peaches and plums, grapes, figs, and mulberries, with ſome filberds and walnuts, and great variety of pears and apples.

The flowers that blow this month are, panſies, amomus, heliotropes, arbutus, ſingle wallflowers, carnations, ſtock-gilliflowers, double violets, and the ſaffron crocus.

NOVEMBER.

Buſineſs of the month.

DRAW up the roots of carrots, parſnips, potatoes, beets, large rooted parſley, &c. lay them in ſand, defended from wet and froſt, pick

pick off decayed leaves from your cauliflower plants, and draw earth up to the ſtems of thoſe under bell and hand glaſſes. Weed your ſpinach, onions, and other crops ſown in July and Auguſt.

Sow peas and beans to ſucceed thoſe of the former month, and draw up earth to the ſtems of thoſe which are come up. If the weather is mild your cauliflowers and lettuce plants that are in frames, or under glaſſes, may have ſome air given them. The ground between your artichoaks muſt be trenched, laying a large ridge of earth over the roots, equal on their ſides and tops.

In the Fruit Garden.

It is now proper time to begin pruning pears and plums, eſpecially the dwarfs and thoſe on the eſpaliers; the vine, of all other works, is the moſt material to be obſerved this month. Lay down the branches, particularly ſuch as you would have fruit upon the following year, to be ſet growing in pots upon a table at great entertainments. The branches for this purpoſe muſt be ſhoots of the ſame year, and ſo drawn thro' the hole at the bottom of a garden pot, that when it is filled with earth there may be a reaſonable number of eyes or buds above ground. Eight or nine bunches of grapes will grow on a ſtrong branch.

Nurſeries for ſtocks of all ſorts of fruit trees may be made this and the preceding month, as well as in February and March. You cannot eaſily chuſe or make the ſoil of your nurſery for wall-trees too rich, becauſe ſtocks ſhould be vigo-

vigorous. Plant the beſt plum-ſuckers, or ſow the ſtones and kernels whereon to raiſe peaches and apricots, pears and apples.

Trees that are unhealthy may be refreſhed by applying new mould to their roots. Let your moſt delicate ſtone fruit be covered, to defend them from the ſeverity of the piercing winds. In planting and ſowing it is a general rule to ſow moderately dry, and plant moiſt.

Nail the tender branches of fig-trees cloſe to the wall, before the great froſts come on. If the weather be open continue to plant and remove fruit trees.

In the Flower Garden.

Preſerve heaps of earth for your ſeveral ſorts of flowers, and make the proper mixtures for exotics; obſerving that where the ground is too ſtiff it may be brought to a ſtate of loam, by adding to it a ſufficient quantity of drift or ſea-ſand. Tie up all trees and ſhrubs to ſtakes, otherwiſe, by their being looſe and at liberty, they will be deſtroyed by the winds. Cut down the ſtalks of tall blowing flowers that have done bloſſoming, within three inches of the root. Roſes, jeſſamines and honeyſuckles may be yet tranſplanted if the weather is open.

Lay down your auricula pots upon their ſides, the plants towards the ſun, to drain them from moiſture, and preſerve them from froſts. Give your ſeeding bulbs daily airings, and keep them ſheltered from the froſt. Plant hyacinths, and jonquils, and plunge them into hot-beds, to bloſſom about Chriſtmas.

Manure

Manure of the Month.

Plant currants, gooſeberries, apricots, cherries, early peaches, nectarines, &c. againſt a paling of five feet high, made after the following manner: the ſtakes to ſupport this paling muſt be ſet about four feet diſtance from each other; to which you muſt nail whole deal boards of twelve feet long, well jointed to one another, and ploughed on the edge, ſo as to ſet in laths, that thereby the ſteam of the dung, which is to lie at the back, may not get among the plants; becauſe wherever ſuch ſteam comes, it will cauſe mildews. The deals are to be an inch in thickneſs; for if they are not quite ſo thick, the trees will be apt to be ſcorched upon the firſt application of the hot dung; and if they are thicker, the artificial heat applied to their backs, upon the time it begins to decline, will not be powerful enough to warm them thorough, and then the dung muſt be often refreſhed.

When the paling is up, you are to mark out a border on the ſouth ſide of it about four feet wide; and on the outſide of the border, faſten to the ground in a ſtraight line, ſome ſcantlings of wood about four inches thick, to reſt glaſs-lights upon, which are to ſlope back to the paling for ſheltering the fruit, as occaſion requires; between theſe glaſs-lights muſt be bars cut out of whole deal, about four inches wide, ſo made, that the glaſs-lights may reſt in them: theſe bars muſt always remain fixed, as in a frame for a hot-bed.

At the end of this frame muſt be a door ſhaped to the profile of the frame, to be opened, either the one or the other, as the wind happens to blow, always obſerving that the door be opened on that ſide only which is freeſt from the air.

If a frame of this nature be made in the Summer ſeaſon, you may plant it the ſame Summer with fruit-trees, and the trees will take very good root before Winter, and be ſo well ſtored with ſap againſt the following Spring, as to ſhew no ſign of their removal, but bear extremely. Beſides, by this Summer planting, the trees ſeldom or never throw away their ſtrength in Autumn ſhoots, or make any attempt towards it, till September and October, when the froſts prevent their deſign.

The trees planted muſt have time allowed for the juices to digeſt, before you begin to force them: therefore the hot dung is not to be applied to the back of the paling before November. About the middle of this month, or towards the end, is time enough to bring ripe cherries in February; and at the ſame time likewiſe heat may be uſed for apricots, ſo as to make the maſculine apricots as large in February as duke cherries, and ripen them the begining of April. Apricots, tho' forced in the uncommon ſeaſon, will thrive and proſper well for many years; but our cherries do not bear this alteration in nature ſo well. Some forward ſorts of plums will ripen about the end of April; and the Anne-peach at the ſame time. The early nectarine being thus forced, would ripen with the maſculine apricot. And as to gooſeberries, we may have green fruit

fit

fit for tarts in January and February; and ripe gooſeberries and currants in March and April.

In this frame you might alſo plant a row or two of ſtrawberries, which would ripen at the end of February or beginning of March. And amongſt the fruit you may mix here and there a monthly roſe-tree; and have a border planted with early tulips, hyacinths, jonquils, narciſſus, and other flowers, which by the forcing heats would make a kind of Summer all the Winter.

The trees planted in theſe frames muſt be cloſe to the paling, contrary to the methods of planting againſt walls; for the roots will run under the pales, and draw nouriſhment equally from the earth about them, but with walls it is otherwiſe. The trees need not be planted at a greater diſtance than four or five feet: and thoſe that have ſtood ſeven or eight years againſt walls, may be removed to theſe forcing frames without any danger: As to pruning theſe trees, the ſame method is to be followed as recommended for other trees in February; but the ſeaſon for doing it is not the ſame; for in the forcing frames our Spring begins in November, but in the other caſe it does not begin till the end of January or February. The trees are to be pruned and nailed to the pales (every branch as cloſe to the pales as may be) about a week before the forcing heat is applied; and all the glaſſes to be put up as ſoon as they are pruned.

The hot dung to be laid to the back of the pales, ought to be toſſed up in an heap ſome days before it is uſed, that it may yield a heat every

every where alike: and when it is fit to be applied to the pales, you muſt lay it four feet wide at the baſe; and let it ſlope to two feet at the top, the heighth in all being at firſt within four inches of the top of the pales, and in ſix weeks time it will ſink to about three feet, when you are to apply freſh dung. The firſt heat does little more than ſwell the buds of the trees, and bring them to a green colour; the ſecond forwards their bloſſoming, and the third brings the fruit to maturity. It helps very much the bloſſoming of the trees, to cover them with the glaſs-lights, when froſt happens: but no opportunity of ſhowers ſhould be denied them, if the weather be tolerable mild, till the buds begin to ſtir; after that, the glaſſes are to remain over them conſtantly till the ſun begins to have ſome power. When the ſun ſhines warm, and the wind is not too ſharp, give air at the front of your frame; and if this does not happen during a fortnight's ſpace, then give air at the end, and put up mats or canvas to correct the winds, and cauſe the air to circulate in the frames.

About three changes of dung will ſuffice to bring your cherries to ripeneſs in February, allowing each parcel to remain a month at the back of the pales: but if April proves cold, the forcing heat is to be continued till May, for plums, peaches, nectarines and apricots. Where theſe forcing frames are kept, the dung, when it has loſt its heat, may be laid in heaps to rot for the improvement of land.

Produce of the Month.

The ſallads of this month are compoſed from the ſmall herbs on the hot-bed, with burnet, cabbage-lettuce, cellery, and endive blanched, and young onions. If the cucumber plants that were ſown in July have been properly guarded from rain and froſts, they will produce fruit this month. We have cauliflowers and ſome artichoaks in the greenhouſe

The roots we have this month are, carrots, parſneps, turneps, beets, ſkirrets, horſe-radiſh, potatoes, onions, ſhalots and rocambole. The herbs and plants for boiling are, cabbages and the ſprouts of cabbages, ſome few ſavoy cabbages and ſpinach.

The dried herbs are, mint, ſweet marjoram, and marygold flowers. The pot-herbs are cellery, parſley, ſorrel, thyme, ſavory, beet-leaves, and clary.

Apples and pears of ſeveral ſorts are now ripe, ſuch as the St. Germain, la chaſſeree, the ambret, colmar, criſſan, and ſwan's egg; there are walnuts, medlars, and ſervices. We have likewiſe ſome grapes and figs.

The flowers that blow this month are, ſingle anemonies, gentianella, polyanthus, ſtock-gilliflower, and double violets. We have likewiſe ſome carnations in the greenhouſe.

DECEMBER.

Buſineſs of the Kitchen Garden.

SAVOYS and cabbages which are deſigned for ſeed, muſt be hung up by their ſtalks in a dry room for a week or ten days: after which plant them down in a warm border almoſt over their head. Plant each kind at a diſtance, and cover them with dry ſtraw or peas-haulm if the weather be froſty.

Sow radiſhes, carrots and lettuce on warm borders for an early crop. Carry dung into the quarters, and ſpread it on the ground; trench up the quarters, laying the earth in ridges, that it may be mellowed by the froſt. In mild weather uncover your cauliflower plants under frames every day. Earth up cellery as near the tops of the plants as poſſible.

On the approach of hard froſt, cover cellery and endive with fern or ſtraw. If the weather be mild, ſow early peas in warm borders about the middle of the month, and in froſty weather cover them with reeds or ſtraw.

In the Fruit Garden.

The principal buſineſs to be done in the fruit garden this month is the pruning of vines, and thoſe other works which were left unfiniſhed the preceding month.

About the latter end of the month prune and rail wall fruit trees and ſtandards that are hardy;

dy; and you may yet ſet moſt ſorts of kernel ſtones.

Moſt ſort of hardy trees, that ſhed their leaves in the Winter, may be removed or planted.

You muſt be attentive to fruit trees in orchards, and ſuch branches as make confuſion muſt be taken away. Cover every conſiderable wound with a mixture of bees-wax, roſin, and tar, in equal quantities, and of tallow about half the quantity of any of the others; which are to be melted together in an earthen veſſel well glazed, and with a painting bruſh dipped into it, the wound is to be covered over.

You muſt now be careful to deſtroy ſnails, which harbour in moſt parts of the garden, but particularly behind the ſtems of wall-trees, where they will be found in great abundance.

In the Flower Garden.

Provide ſhelter for your tender flowers in the green houſe, ſuch as choice anemonies and the ranunculus. Take off dead and rotten leaves from your exotic plants. Let your green-houſe plants have but little water; and be ſure to obſerve this rule, that aloes, euphorbiums, Indian figs, torch-thiſtles, and ſedums, have not any water given them till the latter end of March.

You muſt not be over haſty in warming your green houſe with artificial heats, but admit as much ſun as poſſible, becauſe as that is a natural heat, they will be better cheriſhed. The principal matter is to keep out froſts, which may be done by covering the windows of your greenhouſe with mats.

As no plant can live without air, it is adviſeable, that at the end of your green houſe there ſhould be an anti-chamber, through which you are to paſs to the houſe; which chamber will have freſh air from abroad every time you go into it, and on opening the door of it into the green houſe, the air will there mix with the other that has been pent up, and impregnate it with new parts, by which means it will contribute to the vegetation of plants, without affecting them too ſuddenly.

The weather being generally ſevere at the cloſe of this month, thoſe gentlemen that have water-works in their gardens muſt cover their fountain pipes, and the ſtone of thoſe works, with ſtable litter, to preſerve them from froſts, which will occaſion the ſtone to crack, and conſequently deſtroy it.

This is the proper time to turn up gravel walks into ridges, in order to deſtroy the weeds; in which manner they are to continue till April, when they muſt be laid afreſh.

This method of managing our walks at this time of the year, is by many objected againſt; becauſe, beſides being deprived of the benefit of them all the Winter, it doth not anſwer the end of the practice, but rather the contrary. Turning the walks up in ridges kills indeed the preſent weeds; but for the very ſame reaſon that the huſbandman ſtirs and tills his land, to enrich and fertilize it, ſo this turning and ridging of walks is a real tillage, and adds fertility to them, to the future increaſe of graſs and weeds.

This conſidered, if conſtant rolling after rains and froſt will not not effectually kill the moſs and

weeds

weeds of your gravel-walks, the beſt way, if they muſt be turned, is to ſtay till April, and then turn and lay them down at the ſame time. But the better way is, inſtead of turning the gravel-walks, to run the top over with a Dutch hough, in the Spring of the year, after a froſt; then let them lie ſome time before they are raked and rolled, and that will kill the moſs and weeds; or where the walks are very large, a garden harrow will anſwer the ſame end.

Work of the month.

A very principal part of the buſineſs of this month conſiſts in its being eſteemed a greater excellency to produce a ſingle cucumber or cherry at Chriſtmas, than to bring to maturity loads of them in their natural ſeaſons.

In December and January we may have ſome green peas, by the help of the forcing frame mentioned in the preceding month, or otherwiſe by the aſſiſtance of hot-beds; and we may have cucumbers fit for the table every month in the year: the common natural cucumbers laſt tolerable good till the end of Auguſt, though they run upon the ground; and if we take care to let ſome cucumber vines run up ſticks againſt walls, they will have very fair fruit till the end of October, but eſpecially if they are covered in the night from froſts; and in November and December a gardener among his cucumber plants, of various ages and degrees of growth, may have fruit ſet ſo as to be brought to perfection, and cut down on New-year's-day.

The

The times for ſowing cucumbers for Winter ripening are to be thus obſerved; begin to ſow ſeed on the natural ground, to tranſplant them upon a moderate hot-bed the latter end of July, and continue your ſowing every week till the latter end of Auguſt; and thoſe plants that are ſown about the latter end of Auguſt, will begin to ſhew fruit the beginning of October: in September, ſow three times, viz. about the ninth, the nineteenth, and twenty-fifth days of that month; and thoſe ſown on the laſt of thoſe days, will bear fruit fit to be cut the firſt of January: then you may ſow in October, and have a good crop in February, with good management.

To bring cherries in December, it has been practiſed to pull off all the bloſſoms of a tree as ſoon as they were budding out in the Spring, and the tree kept very dry from rains all the Summer; and about the end of July, or in Auguſt, giving it gentle waterings, by little and little, about the end of September it has been in full bloſſom, when glaſſes are to be kept over it, and at the end of October, if the weather is cold, or beginning of November, dung is to be applied at the back of the pales, and renewed as directed in November for your forcing frames. The morello cherry, which is apt to come late, will hold a long time upon the tree, even till the end of October; and if ſuch trees were ſheltered from froſts with mats or glaſſes, there is no doubt but the fruit will remain a month longer upon the tree, and perhaps till December.

Currants will remain good upon the trees till October, if the buſhes are well matted up as ſoon

ſoon as the fruit is coloured, but the mats are to be put up in a very dry ſeaſon. And it is the opinion of many gardeners, that we have many ſorts of fruits which will hang upon the trees all the year about, and be fair to the eye all that time, if they are kept from the froſt: but as it is natural for trees to diſburden themſelves of the loads of fruit, you are to begin to cover them before they are ripe, otherwiſe they will be in danger of dropping from the trees.

Beſides the paling and frames for ripening of fruit in the Winter, deſcribed in the preceding month, ſome curious gentlemen adviſe the building of walls with fire-places at the back, at twelve or fourteen feet diſtance from one another: the flues whereof to be made with various turnings, till you come near the top of the wall, by which means the whole wall may be regularly warmed at once: and theſe walls are to have frames and glaſſes in the ſame manner as uſed againſt the paling, already treated of. The walls of this kind ſeem to be juſtified in the obſervations I have made, that a vine, or other fruit-tree, planted againſt a chimney where a fire is conſtantly kept, or againſt the back of an oven frequently uſed, will ſhoot, and ripen its fruit much earlier than in any expoſure to the ſun againſt a common wall: which plainly ſhews fruit may be forced by fire.

Black and white grapes, with other ſorts of fruit, have been ripe in April, by being planted againſt a fire-wall.

And not only fruit, but plants of all kinds, may be forced by fire as well as dung: for there is a way of making a hot-bed by means of fire, for the

the uſe of thoſe gardeners who have not an opportunity of getting horſe-dung. This hot-bed is thus managed: you are to make a frame of brick-work of any length, but as wide only as a common hot-bed, to have a fire-place at one end, to paſs into a flue, which is to wind from ſide to ſide, till it reaches the other end, and diſcharges its ſmoak by a chimney; the top of theſe flues may be covered with ſquare tiles, and when the intermediate ſpaces between the flues are filled with coarſe ſand, cover the whole with ſquare tiles, and raiſe the wall about ten inches above the pavement, ſo that you may cover the pavement as deep with ſand if there be occaſion; then upon this ſand place ſuch frames as are generally uſed for hot-beds, to hold the earth in them, and that the earth may receive the heat of the ſand. This bed, by the heat of the flues, when the fire is lighted, may be made as uſeful as any hot-bed, and may be leſs troubleſome, and more laſting.

Produce of the month.

We have this month in the green-houſe ſeveral trees and ſhrubs in flower; viz. laurus tinus, Glaſtonbury thorn, geranium, thlapſi, ſemperbirens, jeſſamines of ſeveral kinds, ficoides, and aloes. The following are now in fruit; the arbutus, or ſtrawberry tree, amomum plinii, orange, lemon, citron, olive, and the pomegranate.

We have in the conſervatory ſome artichoaks preſerved in the ſand. There are ſeveral ſorts of cabbages, and their ſprouts, for boiling; aſparagus upon hot-beds, and if diligence has been uſed,

uſed, you may find ſome cucumbers, or the plants which were ſown in July and Auguſt.

We have this month on the hot bed ſallads of ſmall herbs, with mint, tarragon, burnet, cabbage-lettuce preſerved under glaſſes, and ſome creſſes and chervil upon the natural ground, with which high taſte helps the ſallads of this ſeaſon. To theſe may be added blanched cellery and endive.

There are variety of herbs for ſoups and the kitchen uſe, ſuch as ſage, thyme, beet-leaves, parſley, ſorrel, ſpinach, cellery, and leeks, tops of young peas, &c. likewiſe ſweet marjoram, dried marigold flowers, and dried mint. The roots are, carrots, parſnips, turnips, and potatoes.

The fruit-garden produces little this month except pears and apples; of the latter we have but few, though there are yet plenty of the former, particularly of the St. Germain, ambret, and the colmar.

The flowers we have this month are, ſingle anemonies, ſtock-gilliflowers, ſingle wall-flowers, primroſes, ſnow-drops, black hellebore, Winter aconite, polyanthus; and in hot beds, the narciſſus and hyacinth.

The Compleat Bee-Maſter;

OR

Beſt Method of managing BEES, *as well for profit as pleaſure.*

THESE little inſects are no leſs to be valued for the profits of their labour, than the trifling expence and trouble attendant on them, there being no wood nor foreſt, no fruit nor flower, but what contributes to their daily toil; nor are they at any time idle, but in very cold or wet weather.

The moſt convenient place to make choice of for your apiary, or bee-garden, is near the houſe, that you may the better look after them in ſwarming time. It muſt be ſecurely fenced from all ſorts of cattle, eſpecially hogs, and from all ſorts of fowl, whoſe dung is very prejudicial to them. They muſt be well defended from high winds on every ſide, with ſuch fences as may let the ſun come to them; but they ſhould be ſheltered with a brick wall that is ſolid, in order to keep the wind from coming through it, as well as over it: that place being beſt for them which is moſt expoſed to the ſouth, and where they may have the beſt opportunity to ſettle at their hives, when they come laden home.

You ſhould likewiſe plant ſeveral trees and ſhrubs at a reaſonable diſtance, near home, for them

them to pitch on at their ſwarming, that they may not be in danger of being loſt for want of a lighting-place. Limes, phillyreas, ſycamore-trees, and firs, are particularly good to be planted near them, becauſe they draw a great deal of honey and wax from their flowers.

Having fitted the place, the ſeats to ſet the hives on are to be provided, which muſt be ſet a little ſhelving, that the rain may neither run into the hive, nor lay about the door.

It is better to avoid ſetting any hives on a bench; becauſe in Winter it may cauſe the bees to fight, by going in each other's houſes, which they may ſometimes miſtake for their own; and therefore ſome eſteem ſingle ſtools beſt, which are to be ſet at about two feet diſtance from one another, and to be ſupported with four legs, about twelve or fourteen inches from the ground. They ſhould not be above half an inch, or an inch, bigger than the hive, ſave only before, where there ought to be the ſpace of three or four inches, that the bees may have room enough to light upon it. The beſt ſtools are of wood; thoſe of ſtone are too cold in Winter, and too hot in Summer. The ſtools ſhould be ſet towards the ſouth, or rather a point or two to the Weſt, that the hive may ſomewhat break the eaſt wind from the door, and ſtand in ſtraight rows from weſt to eaſt.

There is another method made uſe of, which is, to make for every hive of bees you intend to keep, a cot or houſe of about two feet ſquare, and two feet and an half high, ſet on four legs, about ten inches above ground, and five or ſix inches within the ground,

and covered with boards or tiles, to caſt off the rain; the back, or north ſide, being cloſed up very cloſe, and the eaſt and weſt ſides to have doors to open and ſhut at pleaſure, with haſps to them, and at the face, or ſouth ſide, to have a falling door, that may come about half way down, which is to be elevated at pleaſure, and ſerves in Summer for a penthouſe, not only to beat off the rain from the hives, but to defend them from the extreme heat of the ſun, which is apt to melt their honey. The other lower half ſhould have two ſmall doors, to open to either hand, which will ſerve to defend the holes of the hives from injurious winds. When the Winter approaches, and the cold winds are like to injure the bees, you may then faſten all the doors, which will defend the bees from the extreme of heat and cold, both which are injurious to them.

If you find them to ſtand too cold in Winter, you may put ſtraw within the doors, to keep them warm; but the extremity of cold don't injure them ſo much as wet, which theſe caſes beſt preſerve them from. They likewiſe prevent the bees getting abroad upon every ſunſhine day, becauſe the hives ſtand ſix or eight inches within the doors, which make them dark, and the bees inſenſible of a ſmall heat; when, after the common way of ſtools or benches, the ſun caſts its rays to their doors; which light and warmth together excites them forth, to the expence of their proviſion, and the loſs of their lives, as is evident by frequent experience; the mildeſt and the cleareſt Winters deſtroying, or ſtarving, the moſt bees; whereas the coldeſt and moſt froſty Winters beſt preſerve them.

As

As ſoon as the willow bloſſoms appear, you may open the under-doors, that the light, and and warmth of the ſun and air, may encourage them to work, or elſe you will hinder their early breeding, and make them ſlothful.

There are various ſorts of hives uſed in ſeveral countries, but thoſe moſtly uſed in England are wicker hives, made of previt; willow or harl, daubed with cow dung, tempered with duſt, aſhes, or ſand; or hives made with ſtraw bound with brambles; ſome out of curioſity, that they may ſee the bees work, have them made of wood with glaſs, but they are ſo cold that the bees do not thrive well in them. Others have placed double hives one by another, and ſome upon the tops of others; that ſo, by the taking of one of them away, they may leave the other for the bees, without driving or killing of them; but as theſe experiments are ſeldom brought to perfection, 'tis needleſs to ſay much about them.

The warmeſt and beſt hives are thoſe made of ſtraw, the bigneſs of which ſhould be of between five and ſeven gallons, of a round form, rather broad than high; but you ought to have of each ſize, that you may ſuit your ſwarms to them according as they are bigger or leſſer; and where you deſign to multiply your ſtock, make uſe of ſmall hives, and of the larger where you deſire a great deal of honey. Having thus made your hives, you muſt dreſs them after the following manner; take off all the ſtaring ſtraws, twigs, and jags, that are offenſive in the hive, and make them as ſmooth as poſſible. If you need but few hives, you may prune them with a knife;

if many, ſingle and rub them with a piece of brimſtone.

Having pruned your hive, put in your ſpleets, three or four of them, as the largeneſs of your hive ſhall require: the upper ends whereof ſet together at the the top of the hive, and the lower faſten about a handful above the ſkirt. Beſides theſe ſpleets, the ſtraw hive ſhould have four other ſpleets driven up into the ſkirts, to keep the hive from ſinking when it is loaded; two of which are the two door-poſts, the other two are hind poſts, ſet at equal diſtances.

The hives you intend to uſe in ſwarming time muſt be rubbed with ſweet herbs, as thyme, balm, ſavoury, marjoram, fennel, hyſſop, bean-tops, &c. and when the ſwarm is ſettled, take a branch of the tree whereon they pitch, and wipe the hive clean with it, and wet the inſide of the hive with honey, mead, ſalt and water, ſmall beer, or honey and milk, or ſugar and milk.

Again, your hives muſt be kept cloſe for defence of your bees, firſt, from the cold, by mixing of cow dung with lime or aſhes, and with ſand, with which you muſt ſtop up the edges of the hive round, and againſt Winter put a wicket of a ſmall piece of wood, in which are three or four notches, cut juſt big enough for the bees to go in and out at, that no vermin may get to them.

If the Spring be mild, calm, and ſhowering, it is good for ſwarms, and they will be the earlier; but if it proves a cold, dry, windy Spring, then there will be but few ſwarms, and thoſe alſo backward. There are the moſt

ſwarms

ſwarms and greateſt plenty of honey in dry weather.

You muſt begin to look after them, about the middle of May in an early Spring, and obſerve what you can of the uſual ſigns that precede their ſwarming, that you may be the more watchful over thoſe that require it. When the hives are full (before which they will never ſwarm) they will caſt out their drones, although they be not quite grown, and the bees will hover about the doors. In cold evenings and mornings, there will be a moiſture or ſweating upon the ſtool, and they will continually be running up and down haſtily, and lie out in ſultry evenings and mornings, and go in again when the air is clear.

In warm and calm weather, the bees delight to riſe; but eſpecially in a hot gleam, after a ſhower or gloomy cloud hath ſent them home together. Then ſometimes they gather together without at the door, not only upon the ſtool, but the hive alſo; where when you ſee them begin to hang in ſwarming-time, and not before, you may be ſure they will preſently riſe, if the weather holds.

When the bees lie forth continually under the ſtool, or behind the hive, eſpecially towards the mdidle of June, 'tis a ſign or cauſe of not ſwarming: for when they have once taken to lie forth, the hive will always ſeem empty, as though they wanted company, and they will then have no inclination to ſwarm.

It is ſtormy and windy weather alſo that will not ſuffer them to ſwarm, when they are ready, and that makes them lie out; for the lon-

ger they lie out, the more unwilling they are to ſwarm.

In order to make them ſwarm, ſome keep the hives as cool as may be, by watering and ſhadowing both them and the place where they ſtand, and then enlarging of the door to give them air, they move the cluſter gently with their bruſh and drive them in.

If yet they lie out and ſwarm not, then the next calm warm day about noon, while the ſun ſhineth, put in the better part with your bruſh, and the reſt gently ſweep away from the ſtool, not ſuffering them to cluſter again. Theſe riſing in the calm and heat of the ſun, by their noiſe, as though they were ſwarming, will make the others come forth perhaps unto them, and ſo they may ſwarm.

Many other ways have been attempted to cauſe bees to ſwarm, as by placing a large pewter-platter under the cluſter of bees as they hang out in the heat of the ſun, ſo that it may ſtrongly reflect the heat upon them, which will provoke them to ſwarm.

If neither of theſe methods ſhould ſucceed, but that they lie forth ſtill, then rear the hive enough to let them in, and cloom up the ſkirts all but the door: if this has not the deſired effect there is no remedy.

The ſigns of after-ſwarms are more certain. When the prime ſwarm is gone, about the eight or tenth evening after, when another brood is ready, and again hath over filled the hive, in the morning before they ſwarm they will come down near the ſtool, and there they call one another, and at the time of ſwarming they deſcend to the ſtool, where anſwering one

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another in more earneſt manner with thick and ſhriller notes, the multitude come forth in great haſte, &c.

If the prime ſwarm be broken, the ſecond will both caſt and ſwarm the ſooner; it may be the next day, and after that a third, and ſometimes a fourth, but all uſually within a fortnight; ſometimes alſo a ſwarm will caſt another that year.

When the ſwarm is riſen, 'tis the uſual cuſtom to make a noiſe with a pan, kettle, mortar, &c. but ſome reckon it an inſignificant ceremony, and others eſteem it prejudicial. But if they are like to be gone, caſt duſt or ſand amongſt them to make them come down.

When they have made choice of a lighting-place, you will quickly ſee them knit together into a cluſter, when they are fully ſettled, and the cluſter hath been a while at the biggeſt, then hive them. And having in ſtore ſeveral hives of various ſizes, make choice of one that the bees may go near to fill it that year, but rather under-hive a ſwarm than over-hive them, and rub the hive with ſweet herbs, as is before directed.

The man that hives them muſt drink a cup of good beer, and waſh his hands and face therewith, or being otherwiſe defended, if the bees hang upon a bough, ſhake them into the hive, and ſet the ſame upon a mantle or cloth on the ground as is uſual: or you may cut off the bough if it be ſmall, and lay it on the mantle or cloth, and ſet the hive over it, which is the better way.

If they light near the ground, lay your cloth under them, and ſhake them down, and place the

the hive over them; and ſuch bees as gather together without the hive, wipe them gently with your bruſh towards the hive: and if they take to any other place than the hive, wipe them off gently with your bruſh, and rub the place with wormwood, nettles, may-weed, &c. Then ſet the ſwarm as near as you can to the lighting place, till all be quiet, every one knowing his own houſe.

If the ſwarms ſeparate, and light in ſight of one another, let alone the greater, and diſturb the leſſer part, and they will fly to their fellows: but if not in ſight, hive them both in two ſeparate hives, and bring them together, ſhaking the bees out of one hive on the mantle whereon the other hive ſtands, and place the other full hive on them, and they will all take to it.

If your ſwarm ſhould happen to come late after the middle of June, and that they are ſmall, under the quantity of a peck; then put two or three of them together, whether they riſe the ſame day, or in divers; for by this uniting they will labour carefully, and gather ſtore of honey, and ſtoutly defend themſelves againſt all enemies. The manner of uniting them is thus.

When it grows duſk in the evening, having ſpread a mantle on the ground, near unto the ſtool, where this united ſwarm ſtands, ſet a pair of reſts, for two ſupporters for the hive; knock down the hive out of which you intend to remove your bees upon the reſt: then lift up the hive a little, and clapping it between your hands to get out the bees, ſet the ſtock to the ſwarm to which you would add them, upon the reſt or ſupporters over them, and they will forth-

forthwith aſcend into the hive; thoſe that remain in the empty hive, by clapping it, will haſten after their companions. When you have got them all in, either that night, or early the next morning, place the hive on the ſtool, &c.

Many people think it better to place the hive wherein you have newly put your ſwarm you intend to drive into another, in a place that the ſkirts may be uppermoſt, and ſet the other upon it, binding them about the ſkirts with a towel. Let them ſtand till the morning, and the bees will all aſcend, that you may the next morning ſet the receiver on a ſtool: and thus you may put three or four ſwarms together; but obſerve to unite them the ſame evening, or the next at fartheſt, leſt having made combs, they are the more unwilling to part from them.

It is good in all reſpects, to defend one's ſelf, as well as may be, againſt their ſtings; the ſureſt way of doing which is to have a net knit with ſmall meſhes that a bee cannot get through; and of fine thread or ſilk, large enough to come over your hat, and to lie down to the collar of your doublet, through which you may perfectly ſee what you do, without any danger, having alſo on your hands a good pair of gloves; if woollen the better.

If a bee ſhould happen to catch you unawares, pull out the ſting as ſoon as you can, and take a piece of iron, and heat it in the fire: or for want of that, take a live coal, and hold it as near and as long to the place as you can poſſibly endure it, and it will attract the fiery venom; and afterwards anoint it with ſome honey or mithridate,

or

or if you take a little ſpittle and wet it, it will cure it.

When a ſwarm has entered its hive, they immediately (if the weather will permit) gather wax and build combs; that in a few days time there will be compleat combs. They lie ſo thick about them, thas it is impoſſible one quarter of them can be employed at once, until the combs are brought to a conſiderable length, and then a great part of them may be employed in filling them, and the reſt in finiſhing their cells or combs.

Towards the end of Summer, their number begins to leſſen; for in their proſperity at ſwarming time, and ſhortly after, they are far more in number than in the Autumn or Winter, as you may eaſily diſcern between the quantity and number of a ſwarm, and thoſe you kill when you take them; for the bees of the laſt year's breed do now by degrees waſte and periſh by their extraordinary labour, their wings decay and fail them; ſo that a year, with ſome advantage, is the uſual age of a bee, and the young only of the laſt Spring ſurvive, and preſerve the kind till the next.

There are ſeveral things that are injurious to bees, and will much hinder their proſperity, if not prevented.

1. Noiſe, which may in part be remedied by the ſituation of the apiary, free from the noiſe of carts, coaches, bells, echoes, &c.

2. Smoak, where land hath been burn-beaten near unto an apiary, and the wind hath brought the ſmoak towards it, a great many of the bees have been killed; which is the reaſon they will not thrive in or near great towns.

3. Diſ-

3. Diſagreeable ſmells are very offenſive to them.

4. Bad weather, as wind, rain, cold, heat, &c. which is prevented by the ſituation and fencing of the apiary, and ordering the ſtock as before.

5. The mice, birds, and other devouring creatures, which are to be deſtroyed.

6. Noiſome creatures, as toads, frogs, ſnails, ſpiders, moths, ants, &c. which you muſt endeavour to keep from them, and cleanſe alſo the hives ever and anon from theſe vermin.

7. Hornets and waſps, in ſuch years wherein they abound, prove great enemies to the bees, by robbing them of their honey: they are deſtroyed by placing near the door of the hive a glaſs phial half full of beer, cyder, or any ſuch thing; if ſome ſugar be added to it, it will do the better.

8. Bees themſelves prove the greateſt enemies both by fighting and robbing. Several occaſions provoke the bees to fight: which, if the battle be but newly begun, may be hindered by ſtopping up the hive cloſe: but if they be gone ſo far that moſt of the bees are out, the caſting of duſt among them was the ancient way.

The beſt time to remove an old ſtock is a little before or a little after Michaelmas; or, if you have overſlipt that time, then about the end of February, or beginning of March, before they go much abroad, leſt it prevent their ſwarming. You may remove them at any time in the Winter, but not ſo well as in the forementioned ſeaſon.

The beſt time of the day to do it is in the evening, next after hiving, if the weather be

fair, and do it in the evening when the bees are quiet; the beſt way of doing of which is thus:

Take a board about the breadth of the bottom of the hive you intend to remove, and in the evening, or two or three evenings before, lift it up, and bruſh the bees that are on the ſtool forward, and let the board be a little ſupported by two ledges, to prevent the death of the bees on the ſtool. On this board ſet the ſtock, and ſo let them ſtand till you remove them. When you come to move them, ſtop up the door of the hive, and ſet the board whereon the hive ſtandeth, on a hand barrow, and carry them to the place you intend.

The feeding of bees is of little uſe; firſt, becauſe the bees that have not a profitable ſtock of honey to ſerve them over the Winter, are not fit to keep; and then, becauſe they that are bee-maſters, and have not care enough of them to keep them from ſpending of that ſtock they have in Winter-time, muſt not expect to reap any conſiderable advantage by them; and it may be preſumed will never take ſo much pains and care as is required in feeding of them. But as

There are ſome ſtocks of bees in the Spring time that may ſeem worthy of our care to preſerve, viz. Such as have but a ſmall ſtock of honey, and a good quantity of bees, by means of a cold, dry, unſeaſonable Spring, cannot make ſuch timely proviſion as in other years they might have done, yet in all probability may prove an excellent ſtock, and may be worth our aſſiſtance.

Food may be afforded to them ſeveral ways, but

but the beſt is by ſmall canes or troughs conveyed into their hives, into which you may put the food you give them. The chief time of feeding them is in March, when they begin to breed, and to ſit on their young ones, which muſt be daily continued till the Spring ſeaſon affords them eaſe and proviſion abroad, becauſe at that time their combs are full of young bees.

About the middle of Auguſt weigh your hives, and take the heavieſt; and the lighteſt, if they do not weigh 14 pounds, will hardly maintain themſelves over Winter.

Of all food, honey is the beſt and moſt natural, which will go farther, if it is mixed well with a moderate proportion of good ſweet wort. Some preſcribe toaſts of bread ſopped in ſtrong ale, and put into the bee-hive, whereof they will not leave one crumb remaining. Some alſo adviſe to put in the hive dry meat, or flour of beans; others, bay ſalt, roaſted apples, &c. which are very good, eſpecially ſalt; which, if ſome were mixed with water, and always ſet near them, it might do well, it being certain, that bees near the ſea always thrive the beſt; which ſome attribute to their drinking of ſalt water, they flying (ſay ſome) many miles to get it.

It is again propoſed for the improvement of bees, to take a handful of baum, one dram of camphire, half a dram of muſk diſſolved in roſemary, as much yellow bees-wax as is ſufficient, oil of roſes as much, ſtamp the baum and camphire very well, and put them in the melted wax with the oil of roſes, and ſo make it up into a maſs, letting it cool before you put in the muſk, for otherwiſe the heat will fume away moſt of the ſcent.

Take of this maſs ſo much as a hazle-nut, and leave it within the bee-hive; it will (as he ſays) much increaſe the number of the bees, and you will alſo find both honey and wax, three times of more profit than otherwiſe you would have had.

A great thing to advance your bees is the having of fields near you ſowed with brand, coleſeed, or turneps, from which they will draw great quantities of honey. Beans alſo are very good for them.

As the chief aim of the keeper of bees is an advantage by their honey and wax; ſo many have endeavoured to find out ſome way to reap the profits of bees without deſtroying them. One way that has been uſed for this purpoſe is driving them after this manner.

In September, or in any other time after they have done breeding (elſe the honey will be corrupted by the young bees in the combs) place the hive you intend to take with the bottom upwards between three or four ſtakes, and ſet the hive you intend to drive the bees into, over the ſame, as before directed in the uniting of ſwarms; then often clap the under hive between your hands in the evening; and ſo let them ſtand till morning, and then clap it again, and get as many bees out as you can, which will repair to the other hive.

This way is ſomething troubleſome to the unexperienced, yet beneficial in ſuch caſes where you have a great ſtock of honey and few bees in one hive, and a ſmall ſtock of honey in another, by which means you ſave the lives of your bees, which will gladly exchange their hungry habitation for a more plentiful.

But

But theſe ways have altogether failed the deſigns of the undertakers, as I ſaid before; and therefore I ſhall at preſent only deſcribe the common uſage, which is the taking of combs by killing the bees, which certainly muſt be the only way of ordering them, becauſe it is impoſſible for them to live, if you deprive them of their food; and therefore, about the latter end of Auguſt, conſider with yourſelf what ſtalls you will keep, and what you will kill. The beſt ſwarms to keep are thoſe of one or two years ſtanding; and thoſe of three or four, which, by reaſon of their ſwarming the laſt Summer, are full of bees, and are the moſt likely to be beſt; but thoſe of that age which have caſt hives, not being likely to continue, are to be taken, as are alſo poor ſwarms not worth their feeding, and all light ſtocks, and ſuch as do not carry out their droſs, and drive away the drones in good time; alſo thoſe whom the robbers eaſily aſſault, are to be ſuſpected; and if their combs be once broken, delay not their taking: and alſo all ſtalls of three years old, or upward, that have miſſed ſwarming two years together, eſpecially thoſe that have lain out the Summer before, and did not caſt the laſt Summer, for ſuch do ſeldom proſper; and therefore it is better to take them while they are good, than in a vain hope of increaſe to keep them till they periſh.

It is not ſafe to truſt to any after they have ſtood five years and upwards, that have miſſed ſwarming two years together, unleſs it be ſome ſpecial ſort of bees, which always keep themſelves in heart; ſuch may be kept nine or ten years.

Likewiſe, if you have any that are very full of honey, as in ſome years they will be, even

down to the ſtool, ſuch ſtall is worth three or four, and therefore take them in their ſeaſon.

Having made choice of your ſtalls to be taken, two or three hours before ſun-ſetting dig a hole in the ground about nine inches deep, and almoſt as wide as the hive ſkirts, laying the ſmall earth round about the brims; then having a little ſtick ſlit at one end, and ſtripped at the other, take a brimſtone match five or ſix inches long, and about the bigneſs of your little finger, and making it faſt in the ſlit, ſtick it in the middle or ſide of the hole, ſo that the top of the match may ſtand even with the brim of the pit, or within one inch of it, and then ſet another by it dreſſed after the ſame manner, if the firſt be not ſufficient. When you have fired the matches at the upper end, ſet over the hive, and preſently ſhut it cloſe at the bottom with the ſmall earth, that none of the ſmoak may come forth, ſo ſhall you have the bees dead in a quarter of an hour.

The hive being taken and houſed, lay it ſoftly on the ground upon the ſides, not the edges of the combs, and looſen the ends of the ſplints with your finger, and the edges of the combs where they ſtick to the ſides of the hive, with a wooden ſlice, take them out one after another, and having wiped off the half dead bees with a good feather, break the combs preſently, while they are warm, into three parts.

The honey which firſt flows of itſelf from the combs is called Virgin honey, as is alſo the honey which comes from the firſt year's ſwarm. This is the beſt and fineſt honey, being more chryſtalline, and of a finer taſte, than that which is ſqueezed out of the combs, and ſo may be kept for particular uſes, or for making of the fineſt mead.

I

I ſhall conclude at preſent with giving you ſome account of the way of ordering your honey and wax, with the virtues of them, that you may be the more ſenſible of the advantages that accrue to mankind by this ſmall inſect.

When your combs have run out as much as they will, put it up warm into pots by itſelf, this being the fineſt honey, as I ſaid before, and it will for two or three days work up a ſcum of coarſe wax, droſs, and other ſtuff, which muſt be taken off. The other honey, which is the coarſer ſort, you muſt get from the combs by preſſing them, which you may alſo pot, except what you deſign for the preſent to make metheglin with; which being done, what remains put into a hair bag, and waſh in a trough, or other veſſel, to make mead or metheglin; and when the ſweetneſs is all waſhed out, being cruſhed dry, try the balls for wax.

The manner of ordering, which is as followeth.

Take the wax and droſs, and ſet it over the fire in a kettle, or other veſſel, that may eaſily contain it, and pour in as much water as will make the wax ſwim, that it may boil without burning, and for this reaſon, while it is gently boiling over the fire, ſtir it often; when it is thoroughly melted, take it off the fire, and preſently pour it out of the kettle into a ſtrainer of fine thin linnen, or of twiſted hair, ready placed upon a ſcrew or preſs, lay on the cover, and preſs out the liquor (as long as any wax comes) into a kettle of cold water, but firſt wet both the bag, and the preſs, to keep the wax from ſticking; at the firſt cometh moſt water, at the laſt moſt droſs, and in the middle moſt wax.

The

The wax growing hard, make it into balls, ſqueezing out the water with your hand; which when you have done, break all the balls into crumbs, and in a kettle or ſkillet ſet it over a gentle fire; while it is melting, ſtir it, and ſkim it with a ſpoon wet in cold water, and as ſoon as it is melted and ſcummed clean, take it off, and pour it into a pan or mould, beſmearing the bottom and ſide, firſt with honey (the wax being as cool as it will run thro' a linen ſtrainer:) when you come near the bottom, pour it gently, till you ſee the droſs come, which ſtrain into ſome other thing by itſelf, and when it is cold, either try it again, or (having pared away the bottom) keep it for uſe.

When the wax is in the pan or mould, if there is any froth remaining on the top, blow it together at one ſide, and ſkim it off gently with a wet ſpoon. This done, ſet not the cake abroad where it may cool too haſtily, but put it in a warm houſe not far from the fire, and if it be a large cake, cover it warm, to keep the top from cooling till the inward heat be allayed, and ſo let it ſtand, not moving it till the cake be cold; if it ſtick, warming the veſſel or mould a little will looſen it, ſo that it will preſently ſlip out.

The properties of good wax are, that it is yellow, odoriferous or ſweet, fat, faſt or cloſe, light, pure, being void of any other matter. 'Tis always a ready money commodity, eſpecially Engliſh wax, which is much better than foreign, and commonly ſells for about five or ſix pounds a hundred, it being of extraordinary uſe both in chirurgery and phyſic, beſides the uſe that is made of it for lights, the clearneſs and ſweetneſs

neſs of which makes it preferred before all other ſorts.

As to its chirurgical or phyſical virtues, it is reckoned a mean between hot and cold, between dry and moiſt, being the ground of all ſearcloths and ſalves; it mollifies the ſinews, ripens and reſolveth ulcers: the quantity of a pea being ſwallowed down by nurſes, diſſolveth the milk curdled in the breaſt.

Its oil is of excellent virtue to cure wounds, be they never ſo large or deep (being before ſtitched up) in ten or twelve days at the moſt, and healeth ſmall wounds in three or four days, by only anointing the wound therewith, and applying a cloth wet in the ſame, ſtayeth the ſhedding of hair, either on the head or face, by anointing therewith. And it is as good for inward diſeaſes, if you give one dram at a time in white wine, it will provoke urine, help ſtitches and pains in the loins, the cold gout, and all other griefs coming of cold.

Honey is little inferior, either as to its benefit or uſefulneſs; it is of ſubtil parts, and therefore doth pierce as oil, and eaſily paſſes the parts of the body; it hath a power to cleanſe, and therefore it openeth obſtructions, and cleareth the breaſt and lungs of thoſe humours that fall from the head; it looſeneth the belly, purges the foulneſs of the body, and provoketh urine; it nouriſheth very much, and breedeth good blood; it prolongeth life, and keepeth all things uncorrupted which it is put into; and therefore phyſicians do temper therewith ſuch medicines as they deſign to keep long.

It is good for ſuch as have eaten muſhroons, or drank poppies; it is an eminent ingredient in the

the great antidotes of treacle and mithridate, and is good againſt pleuriſies, phthiſicks, and other diſeaſes of the lungs. But it is for any diſtemper much better to be taken clarified than raw, it being thereby made more nouriſhing, lighter of digeſtion, and leſs laxative, as alſo leſs ſharp, &c.

The whole Art and Method of breeding, and rearing, FOWLS, DUCKS, GEESE, TURKIES, PIGEONS, *and* RABBITS.

FOWLS.

THE country yard cannot be ſaid to be compleat, till well ſtocked with fowl, whoſe advantages will appear to every one who keep them. The pooreſt villager may reap the ſame benefit from their products as the moſt ſubſtantial farmer, they being able to ſhift for themſelves the greateſt part of the year, by their feeding on inſects, corn, or any thing almoſt that is edible by any ſort of animal.

I ſhall not enter into a minute deſcription of the ſeveral ſorts of cocks and hens, only adviſe you to chuſe thoſe that are the beſt breeders, and the beſt layers; the oldeſt being always reckoned the beſt ſitters, and the youngeſt the beſt layers; but no ſort will be good for either, if they are kept too fat: the beſt age to ſet a hen for chickens, is from two years old to five, and the beſt month to ſet them is February; tho' any month between that and Michaelmas is

is good. A hen ſits twenty days, whereas geeſe, ducks and turkeys, ſit thirty. Obſerve to let them have conſtantly meat and drink near them while they ſit, that they may not ſtraggle from their eggs and chill them.

One cock will ſerve ten hens.

If fowls are ſet with buck or French-wheat, or with hemp ſeed, 'tis ſaid they will lay more eggs than ordinary; and buck wheat, either whole or ground, made into paſte, which is the beſt way, is a grain that will fatten fowls or hogs very ſpeedily; but the common food uſed is barley meal with milk or water, but wheat flour is better moiſtened.

A good hen ſhould not differ from the nature of the cock; ſhe ſhould be working, vigilant and laborious, both for herſelf and her chickens; in ſize the biggeſt and largeſt are the beſt, every proportion anſwerable to thoſe of the cock, only inſtead of a comb, ſhe ſhould have upon her crown, a high thick tuft of feathers.

She ſhould have many and ſtrong claws: but it will be better if ſhe has no hinder claws, becauſe they often break the eggs, and beſides, ſuch as have, do ſometimes prove unnatural.

Crowing hens are neither good layers nor good breeders.

The elder hens are rather to be choſen for hatching than the younger, becauſe they are more conſtant, and will ſit out their time; but if you chuſe for laying take the youngeſt, becauſe they are luſty, and prone to generation; but do not chuſe a fat hen for either of theſe purpoſes; for if ſhe be ſet, ſhe will forſake her neſt; the eggs ſhe lay will be without ſhells, and beſides, ſhe will grow ſlothful and lazy.

Thoſe

Thoſe eggs that are laid when the hens are a year and half, or two years old, are the beſt; you muſt, at that time, give the hens plenty of victuals, and ſometimes oats with fenugreek to heat them, if you would have large eggs; for thoſe that are fat commonly lay but ſmall ones; mix ſome chalk with their food, or mix ſome bruiſed brick with their bran, moiſtened with a little water, and give them their belly full of half boiled barley, with vetch and millet.

Some hens have the ill faculty of eating their eggs; to prevent this, take out the white of an egg, and put moiſt plaiſter round about the yolk, and ſuffer it to grow hard; and when the hen attempts to eat it, and finds ſhe cannot do it, ſhe will ſoon give over breaking her eggs.

You may likewiſe pour a clear plaiſter upon the yolk of an egg, and let it harden, ſo that it may ſerve for a ſhell, and put it into the neſt; or you may ſhape an egg of plaiſter, or chalk, and let that be for a neſt egg.

Thoſe hens that have ſpurs often break their eggs, and generally will not hatch them, and they will ſometimes eat them; theſe muſt be ſcoured as well as thoſe that ſcratch and crow like a cock; firſt, by plucking the great quills out of their wings, and by feeding them with millet, barley, and paſte, cut into bits, pounded acorns and bran, with pottage, or crumbs of wheat bread, ſteeped in water or barley meal.

Keep them in a cloſe place and at reſt, and pull the feathers from their heads, thighs and rumps. If a hen be too fat, or has a looſeneſs, ſhe will lay windy eggs.

A hen will ſit well from the ſecond year of her laying to the fifth: the beſt time to ſet a hen, that the chickens may be large and moſt kindly, is in February, in the increaſe of the moon, that ſhe may diſcloſe the chickens in the increaſe of the next new moon, being in March, for one brood of this months chickens is worth three of thoſe of any other month.

Hens may ſet from March to October, and have good chickens, but not after that time, for the Winter is a great enemy to their breeding.

A hen ſits juſt twenty-one days, and if you ſet a hen upon the eggs of ducks, geeſe, or turkies, you muſt ſet them nine days before you put her own eggs to her, of which a hen will cover nineteen; but always ſet an odd egg, what number ſoever you ſet her with.

It will alſo be proper to marke one ſide of the eggs when you put them under the hen, and to obſerve whether ſhe turns them from the one ſide to the other, and if ſhe does not, then take an opportunity when ſhe is from them to turn them yourſelf. But a hen that does not turn them herſelf is of the leſs value.

Take care that the eggs you ſet a hen on be new, which may be known by their being heavy, full and clear, which may be known by looking thro' them in the ſun; nor do you chuſe the largeſt, for they have oftentimes two yolks, and tho' ſome are of opinion that ſuch will produce two chickens, it proves commonly a miſtake, and if they do, they generally prove abortive and monſtrous.

A hen muſt not be taken off or diſturbed from

her neſt, for that will make her utterly forſake it.

While ſhe is ſitting, you muſt place her meat and water near her, that her eggs may not cool, while ſhe is gone to ſeek her food. If ſhe ſhould be abſent from her neſt, ſtir up the ſtraw, and make it ſoft and handſome, and lay the eggs in the ſame order as ſhe left them.

It is very neceſſary to perfume her neſt with roſemary or brimſtone, and you muſt take care that the cock does not come at the eggs and ſet upon them, for he will endanger the breaking of them, and cauſe the hen not to like her neſt ſo well as before.

When hens are laying, the old ſtraw ſhould be taken away, and freſh put in, that it may not breed fleas, or other vermin, which much incommodes them.

The maladies incident to hens are as follows:

Setting hens are ſometimes troubled with lice and vermin; for the cure, pound burnt cummin and ſtapniſagar of each equal quantities, and mix it with wine, and rub the hens with it, or waſh them with a decoction of wild lupines.

If hens are troubled with a looſeneſs, mix a handful of barley meal, and as much wax, in ſome wine, make it into a maſs, and give it them in the morning before they have any other meat, or elſe let them drink a decoction of apples or quinces.

Hens, by laying too many eggs, ſometimes exhauſt their ſtrength and languiſh: the ſame likewiſe happens by hens ſitting too long; to remedy this, take the white of an egg, which you muſt roaſt till it looks as if it was burnt;

burnt; mix this with an equal quantity of dried raiſins, alſo burnt, and give the hens this faſting.

Your hen-houſe muſt be large and ſpacious, with a pretty high roof and ſtrong walls, to keep out both thieves and vermin; let there be windows on the eaſt ſide, that they may enjoy the benefit of the riſing ſun, ſtrongly lathed and cloſe ſhut; upwards and round about the inſides of the walls upon the ground, ſhould be made large pens of three foot high, for geeſe, ducks and large fowls to ſet in, and near unto the evings of the houſe ſhould be long perches, reaching from one ſide of the houſe to the other, on which ſhould ſet cocks, hens, capons and turkies, each on ſeveral perches, as they are diſpoſed.

At another ſide of the houſe, at the darkeſt part over the ground pens, fix hampers full of ſtraw for neſts, in which hens ſhould lay their eggs; but when they ſit to hatch chickens, then let them ſit on the ground, otherwiſe it will be dangerous.

Alſo let there be pins ſtuck in the walls, that the poultry may climb to their pearches with the greater eaſe.

The floor muſt not be paved, but made of earth ſmooth and eaſy. Let the ſmaller fowl have a hole made at one end of the houſe, to go in and come out at when they pleaſe, or elſe they will ſeek out rooſts in other places; but for larger fowl, you may open the door morning and evening.

It would be the better if this hen-houſe was ſituated near ſome kitchen, brew-houſe, bakehouſe, or kiln, where it may have the

heat of the fire, and be perfumed with ſmoak, which is to pullets both delightful and wholſome.

As ſoon as your chickens are hatched, if any be weaker than the reſt, wrap them in wool, and let them have the heat of the fire; it will alſo be very good to perfume them with roſemary; the firſt hatched chickens may be kept in a ſieve till the reſt are diſcloſed, for they will not eat for two days; ſome ſhells being harder than others, they will require ſo much more time in opening; but unleſs the chickens are weak, or then unkind, it will not be amiſs to let them continue under her, for ſhe will nouriſh them kindly.

When they are two days old, give them very ſmall oatmeal, ſome dry, and ſome ſteeped in milk, or elſe crumbs of fine white bread; and when they have gained ſtrength, curds, cheeſe parings, white bread, cruſts ſoaked in drink or milk, barley meal, or wheaten bread ſcalded, or the like ſoft meat, that is ſmall and will be eaſily digeſted.

It is neceſſary to keep them in the houſe for a fortnight, and not ſuffer them to go abroad with the hen to worm. Green chives chopped among their meat is very good, and will preſerve them from the rye or other diſeaſes in the head, and never let them want clear water, for puddle water will be apt to give them the pip.

Nor muſt you let them feed upon tares, darnel, or cockle, for theſe are very dangerous to young ones, nor let them go into gardens till they are ſix weeks old.

If you would have them crammed, coop them up when the dam has forſaken them, and cram them

them with dough made of wheaten meal and milk, which dip in milk, and thruſt down their throats, but let them not be too big, leſt they choak them; they will be fat in a fortnight.

To diſtinguiſh whether a chicken is good or not. After a chicken is killed it will be ſtiff and white, and firm in the vent, if new killed; but tender, and green in the vent, if ſtale.

If you rub your finger on the breaſt of a ſcalded chicken, if it be new killed it will feel rough; but, if ſtale, ſlippery and ſlimy.

A crammed chicken, if it be fat, will have a fat rump, and a fat vein upon the ſide of the breaſt of her, like a pullet.

In order to fatten chickens, you muſt put them into coops, and feed them with barley meal; put likewiſe a ſmall quantity of brick-duſt into their water, which they ought never to be without; this laſt will give them an appetite to their meat, and fatten them very ſoon; for in this caſe it muſt be conſidered, that all fowls and birds have two ſtomachs, as they may be called, the one is their crop, that ſoftens their food, and the other the g'zzard, that macerates their food; in the laſt we always find ſmall ſtones and ſharp ſand, which help to do that office, and without them, or ſomething of that kind, a fowl will be wanting of its appetite to eat; for the gizzard cannot maſticate, or, as it may be ſaid, grind the food faſt enough to diſcharge it from the crop, without ſuch ſand or ſtones; and in this caſe the brick-duſt is aſſiſting.

DUCKS.

DUCKS are very neceſſary for the huſbandman's yard, in that they require no charge in keeping; they live on loſt corn, worms, ſnails, &c. for which reaſon they are very good for gardens. Once in a year they are very great layers of eggs, eſpecially a ſort of duck that turns up the bill more than the common kind; and when they ſit they need little attendance, except to let them have a little barley or offal corn and water near them, that they may not ſtraggle far from their neſt to chill their eggs.

In general it is found more profitable to ſet a hen upon the duck eggs, than any kind of duck whatever, becauſe the old one leads them when hatch'd, too ſoon to the water, where, if the weather be chill, ſome will be loſt. They follow the hen a good while upon the land, and ſo get hardy before they venture to the water.

About thirteen eggs is the proper number to let a duck ſit upon; the hen will cover as many of theſe as of her own, and will bring them up well; ſo that every way ſhe is more profitable for that purpoſe.

When the ducklings are hatch'd, they require no care, if the weather be tolerably good; but if they happen to be produced in a very rainy ſeaſon, it is right to take them under cover a little, eſpecially in the night; for, though the duck naturally loves water, it requires the aſſiſtance of its feathers, and, till they are grown, is eaſily hurt by the wet.

The fattening of ducks at any age is very eaſy,

eaſy, and whether it be the duckling, or the grown duck, the method to be uſed is exactly the ſame. They are to be put into a quiet dark place, and kept in a pen, where they are to have plenty of corn and water; any kind of corn will do, and with this ſingle direction, they will fatten themſelves extremely well in fifteen or twenty days; and will bring a price that very well repays their feeding.

GEESE.

THE benefits ariſing from geeſe are, for food, their feathers, and their greaſe. They will live upon commons, or any ſort of paſture, and need little care and attendance; only they ſhould have plenty of water. The largeſt geeſe are reckoned the beſt, but there is a ſort of Spaniſh geeſe that are much better layers and breeders than the Engliſh, eſpecially if their eggs are hatched under an Engliſh gooſe.

Geeſe lay in the Spring, the earlier the better, becauſe of their price, and of their having a ſecond brood. They commonly lay twelve or ſixteen eggs each. You may know when they will lay, by their carrying of ſtraw in their mouths, and when they will ſit, by their continuing on their neſts after they have laid. A gooſe ſits thirty days; but if the weather be fair and warm, ſhe will hatch three or four days ſooner. After the goſlins are hatched, ſome keep them in the houſe ten or twelve days, and feed them with curds, barley meal, bran, &c. After they have got ſome ſtrength, let them out three

three or four hours in a day, and take them in again, till they are big enough to defend themſelves from vermin. One gander will ſerve five geeſe.

If you would fat green geeſe, you muſt ſhut them up when they are about a month old, and they will be fat in about a month more. Be ſure to let them have always by them in a ſmall rack ſome fine hay, which will much haſten their fatting. But for fatting of older geeſe, it is commonly done when they are about ſix months old, in or after harveſt, when they have been in the ſtubble fields, from which food ſome kill them, which is a good way; but thoſe who have a mind to have them very fat, ſhut them up for a fortnight or three weeks, and feed them with oats, ſplitted beans, barley meal, or ground malt mixed with milk, the beſt thing to fatten them with being malt mixed with beer. But in fatting of all water fowl you may obſerve, that they uſually ſit with their bills on their rumps, where they ſuck out moſt of their moiſture and fatneſs, at a ſmall bunch of feathers, which you will find ſtanding upright on their rumps, and always moiſt, with which they trim their feathers, which makes them oily and ſlippery more than other fowls feathers are, that the water may ſlip off them, which, if cut away cloſe, will make them fat in leſs time, and with leſs meat than otherwiſe. Geeſe will likewiſe feed on and fatten well with carrots, cut ſmall, and given them; or if you give them rye before or about Midſummer, it will ſtrengthen them, and keep them

them in health, that being commonly their ſickly time.

In ſome countries they ſhear the geeſe for their feathers, and ſome pull them twice a year; but this latter way is more injurious to them, and therefore it is better ſtaying till moulting-time, and till their death, for their feathers.

TURKIES.

TURKIES are fowls that proſper very well in open countries, where there is not much ſhelter to harbour vermin to deſtroy them; for they are naturally inclined to ramble. The hens likewiſe are ſo negligent of their young, that whilſt they have one to follow them, they never take any care of the reſt; and therefore there muſt be a great deal of care taken of them while they are young, to watch them, and to keep them warm, they being a bird that cannot bear the cold. But ſome, where they have a conveniency of a ſmall covert near the houſe, let them take their liberty, and ſeek their own neſts; but it is only in ſome particular places that they do well with ſuch management. I knew a gentleman that had a hen turkey of the wild kind from Virginia, of which, and an Engliſh cock, he raiſed a very fine breed, that bred wild in the fields, and always became tame when grown up; they were a very hardy breed, and much larger than ours, and reared their young ones without any care or trouble, breeding much better than our Engliſh.

If you keep them with corn, they are very great feeders, and will devour a great deal; but

but if left to their liberty when grown up, they will get their own livings without either trouble or charges, by feeding on herbs, ſeeds, &c.

Turkies being very apt to ſtraggle, will often be laying their eggs in ſecret places, and therefore the common ſort of them muſt be often watched, and made to lay at home. They begin to lay in March, and will ſit in April. Eleven or thirteen eggs are the moſt they ſhould ſit on. They hatch in between twenty-five and thirty days; and when they have hatched their brood, you muſt be careful to keep the young ones warm; for the leaſt cold kills them. Feed them either with curds, or green freſh cheeſe cut in ſmall pieces. Let their drink be new milk, or milk and water. Some give them oatmeal and milk boiled thick together, into which they put wormwood chopped ſmall, and ſometimes eggs boiled hard, and cut in little pieces. You muſt feed them often, for the hen will not take much care of them, and when they have got ſome ſtrength, feed them abroad in a cloſe walled place, where they cannot ſtray; you muſt not let them out till the dew is off the graſs, taking care to have them in again before night, becauſe the dew is very prejudicial to them.

For the fatting of turkies, ſodden barley is very excellent, or ſodden oats for the firſt fortnight, and for another fortnight cram them as you do capons. They are only to be crammed in a morning, which muſt be given to them warm, and let out all day, being ſometimes fed with corn while out; becauſe, being a ſullen bird, they are apt elſe not to fat ſo kindly.

Their

Their eggs are reckoned very wholſome, and a great reſtorer of nature.

PIGEONS.

WE come now to treat of a fowl ſmaller in its ſize than any of the before-mentioned kinds, but ſuperior to many of them in value; the pigeon. The management of this bird is alſo different in a great meaſure from that of the others, ſo that it naturally falls under conſideration ſingly.

The proper pigeon for the dovecoat, which is the only kind the farmer is to regard, is able, the greateſt part of the year, to provide for itſelf; and when it requires his aſſiſtance, the food is not of any dear kind. Beſide the common advantages of the breed, there is that great article their dung, which is of ſuch ſervice for manure, that it muſt be the intereſt of every farmer to provide it for his own uſe, eſpecially as that is to be done with great eaſe, and the ſame method that affords it will yield him alſo many other advantages.

There are two ſorts of pigeons, the tame, and dovecoat. The tame pigeon is valued not only for its beauty, but for the largeneſs of its body; the common pigeon, which is the kind uſually kept in dovecoats, and thence called the dovecoat pigeon, is ſmaller, and leſs beautiful.

The tame kind generally have but two young ones at a brood; but they make ſome amends for the ſmallneſs of the number by the frequency of their hatching; for, if well fed and tended, they will have young ones every month.

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For the choice of theſe the beauty is generally moſt regarded; but there ſhould be care taken to pair them well, and this is the more worth while, becauſe they are not apt to ſeparate afterwards.

They muſt be kept clean, for they diſlike dirt, though they make a great deal of it. But their food is ſo dear, that few, but thoſe who know very well how to manage them, care to meddle with them. Their beſt food is tares or white peas, and they ſhould have beſide this ſome gravel and clean water ſcattered about, at all times: a great deal of care muſt be taken to preſerve them from vermin, and their eggs from the ſtarlings and other birds, which always haunt the places where they are kept, and will ſuck them.

In order to the perfect thriving of theſe pigeons, it will be proper, beſide their food, gravel, and water, always to let there be ſalt, clay, or ſome other thing with ſea ſalt in it, for them to peck at their pleaſure.

We have ſaid thus much with reſpect to the management of the tame pigeon, for the information of ſuch as may chuſe to breed them, and have not had opportunities of ſeeing it done; and it will be proper to add here, that although the expence and trouble they occaſion, be more than is worth the huſbandman's while in general to give himſelf, yet there is this advantage, that their dung is richer than that of the common pigeon as a manure, which is owing to their food.

We come now to the conſideration and management of the common or dovecoat pigeon, which

which is a ſubject that demands, and deſerves the huſbandman's utmoſt regard.

There are ſome counties where the huſbandmen ſow great quantities of horſe-beans and grey peas, and in theſe particularly the pigeons feed to a great advantage. Theſe ſorts of pulſe are ſowed earlier than other kinds of grain; and their early feeding upon them makes them healthful and ſtrong at thoſe times, and is an occaſion of their breeding earlier than they do elſewhere, which is a conſideration of great importance.

The common blue pigeon is properly the dovecoat breed; and it has the advantage of many other kinds, in that it is hardier, and will live in the worſt Winters.

If it be too ſmall for the farmer's purpoſe, he may mend the breed by putting in a few tame pigeons of the moſt common kind, and the leaſt conſpicuous in their colours, that the reſt may the better take to them by finding them more like themſelves; this, however, is to be done with caution, and never without a due conſideration; for though the bigneſs of a pigeon's body is a plain advantage, yet it is very well known in the kinds in general, that the ſmalleſt bodied are the beſt breeders.

The ringdove has been by ſome introduced into the dovecoat, by ſetting the eggs under a common pigeon; they will in this caſe live, and take their chance among the pigeons; and they have two advantages over them, the one in their largeneſs, and the other in their hardineſs; for they will endure any weather, and live upon any food.

The huſbandman ſhould have a very careful eye upon the proportion of the ſexes among his pigeons; for there is nothing ſo hurtful as the having too many cocks, eſpecially if they keep the larger or tame kind. It is his buſineſs to keep his dovecoat well ſtocked; and moſt people who keep them make their conſciences eaſy about deluding away thoſe belonging to their neighbours; but this abundance of cocks thins the dovecoat, for they grow quarrelſome, and will beat others away, till by degrees a very thriving dovecoat ſhall be, by this ſingle miſtake, reduced to a poor condition.

A very cheap and eaſy way of making a dovecoat is to build the walls with clay mixed with ſtraw; they may be made four feet or more in thickneſs, and while they are wet it is eaſy to cut holes in them with a chiſſel or other inſtrument.

Of whatever materials the coat be erected, it ſhould be white waſhed frequently on the outſide. The pigeon, as has been ſaid already, is a cleanly bird: it loves the appearance of neatneſs; and beſide, the white colour renders the building more conſpicuous.

As to the food of pigeons, beſide the peas and tares already mentioned, barley is very proper, heartening them very much, and making them lay; and for the ſame purpoſe buckwheat alſo is an excellent as well as cheap food.

For the greateſt part of the year, however, the commen pigeons in a dovecoat take care of themſelves, and need no food from their keeper. There are only two ſeaſons at which it is neceſſary or proper to feed them. One of theſe times is the depth of Winter, when the ground

ground is covered with ſnow, or hardened ſo by froſt, that nothing is to be got; and the other is, the middle or latter end of June.

The reaſon of feeding them in the firſt of theſe ſeaſons is obvious; the latter, the farmers when they ſpeak of this fowl call benting time. There is a graſs called bent graſs, the ſeed of which is ripe about this ſeaſon, and is the only food of that kind the pigeons can eaſily get, the peas being not yet ripe. This is a very poor food, and the pigeons at this ſeaſon uſually have many young broods; ſo that they will be ſtarved if they are left to this poor diet; and the farmer will always find his account in giving them food at this ſeaſon, as well as at the other. This laſts however but a ſmall time; and the other is only neceſſary at the ſevereſt days of Winter; ſo that the pigeon is at the utmoſt but a ſmall expence, and that for a very ſhort time.

Beſide the food, the breeder of tame pigeons has been adviſed to give them a lump of ſalted clay, and the ſame indulgence muſt be ſhewn to theſe. But as they are more numerous, there is to be a larger allowance. A large heap of clay ſhould be laid near the dovecoat, and the brine of the family continually beaten in among it. Another way is to make a kind of mortar with lime, ſand, clay and ſalt, which they will peck with great ſatisfaction. The pigeons themſelves have pointed out this method, for they are continually pecking at the joints of walls to get out the mortar. When it is thus made on purpoſe for them, it is beſt to make it thin, and keep it ſo by often beating it up with brine.

In ſome places they lay what is called a ſalt cat near the dovecoat. This is a large lump of ſalt made for the purpoſe at the ſalt pans; and is the method commonly taken where there are works in the neighbourhood, but the way of uſing ſalt in a mixture with clay is better.

What I have found by experience to anſwer beſt of all is this. A heap of loam is to be laid near the dovecoat, and beat up to a kind of pap with brine or water; into this is to be thrown a large quantity of bay ſalt, and a little ſaltpetre, and with it a ſhovel full or two of large coarſe ſand. When brine is uſed to beat up the loam, leſs ſalt is to be uſed; and when water, there muſt be the more of it in proportion. And in the ſame manner if the loam contain a great deal of ſand, the leſs is to be added to it: and if it contain leſs, the more is to be given. Where loam is not to be had clay will do, but then a much larger qaantity of ſand muſt be put in; and the beſt ſand for this purpoſe is large coarſe ſea ſand, which is already impregnated with ſalt water: or that which is got in ſcreening of gravel.

It is a very ſingular thing that the pigeon loves ſalt in this manner; and its fondneſs for ſaltpetre, which is very great, is not ſo well known; though this might have been diſcovered by obſerving the liking this bird has to the mortar in old walls, which contains a ſalt very nearly allied to the common ſaltpetre.

Salt is not only uſeful in this manner to pleaſe the pigeons, when they are in health, but nothing recovers them ſo readily from ſickneſs. A mix-

mixture of bay ſalt and cummin ſeed being with them an univerſal remedy.

A great many contrivances have been publiſhed; and many more are handed about among the country people as great ſecrets, for the making the pigeons love their habitation, and tempting ſuch ſtragglers from their neighbours as chance to come to the coat to ſettle in it. Some have adviſed the uſe of aſafœtida, and others of cummin ſeed before mentioned for this purpoſe; but the beſt method of all others is to keep up conſtantly ſuch a heap of ſalted loam as I have before deſcribed; this is what they love, and they will therefore ſtay where they can have it in plenty. This contrivance, with the addition of keeping the dovecoat neat and clean, and not ſuffering them to be diſturbed in it, will be ſure to keep the ſtock in good number, and too likely to increaſe it at the expence of the neighbours.

The profit of pigeons is very conſiderable and very certain; for they breed faſt, and there is conſtant demand for them. Near great towns it may be worth while to keep ſome of the large tame kind; becauſe, although they cannot be fed but at a large expence, yet their young come ſo early, and are ſo fat and fine, that they command a price, which very well returns it: but in the country the common pigeon is the proper kind; for though the price that the birds fetch is not nearly ſo great, their number and ſmall expence of keeping, very well make amends.

I have ſpoken often to the farmers to recommend their ſetting up dovecoats, but have found it in nothing ſo difficult to make them liſten to me. While they have brought pigeons dung at

a great price, and fetched it from a great diſtance, they have ſtill been backward to think of keeping pigeons themſelves for their own ſupply. There is a ſuperſtition among them, that it is unlucky to ſet up a new dovecoat; this has come down from father to ſon, and they perſuade themſelves it would certainly be followed by death in the family. Nothing can be ſo ridiculous, or ſo weak, as ſuch a ſuppoſition: but there never was an old woman's tale ſo deeply rooted.

RABBETS.

RABBETS are very profitable creatures for their great increaſe, and their being kept on dry barren ſand or gravel that will maintain nothing elſe, which the dryer it is the better for them: this ſort of lands they much improve by their dung for rye. Beſides which many make great profit of them, by keeping of them in hutches near great towns, and ſome keep great quantities of them in pits to catch when they want them, they being a very ready diſh upon any occaſion; but they muſt be in a very dry warm ſoil; if they are any thing deep, they will be elſe too cold, or too damp for them. I ſhould rather prefer for them a large barn made very tight after the way of making of barns for preſerving corn in, to keep vermin out of; for the tame rabbets muſt lie dry and warm, or elſe they will not breed in Winter, which is the chief time of their profit, and what makes them preferred before the wild ones, they are much better meat, if they have their liberty, eſpecially the white ſhock Turky rabbet.

A rabbet begins to breed at a year old, will kindle at leaſt five times a year, if it litters in March; it carries its young in its belly for thirty days, and as ſoon as the doe has kindled, they are to be taken from her at about ſix weeks old, then put the doe to buck; or you may put her to buck when her young are about a month old.

The males are of a cruel diſpoſition, and frequently kill the young ones, if they can come at them; and therefore the females, after they have kindled, hide them, and cloſe up the holes in ſuch a manner that the buck cannot find them.

The huts in which tame rabbets are to be kept, ſhould be about two feet ſquare, and a foot high, and that ſhould be divided into four partitions or ſquares, one quarter with an open grate or wire window, through which the rabbets may feed, and a leſs apartment without light, in which the doe may kindle or kennel, and under this window ſhould be a box or trough, in which may be put her meat; and thus may be made hutch over hutch, three or four ſtories high, keeping bucks and does apart from one another.

In the chuſing tame rich rabbets, it is more material to regard the richneſs of them, than their ſhapes; but let the bucks be as large as you can get them; and thoſe coats are eſteemed the richeſt, that have the equalleſt mixture of black and white hair together, but ſo that the black may rather ſhadow than the white; a black coat, with a few ſilver hairs, being much richer than a white coat with a few black ones.

The

The increaſe is more in the tame than the wild, the former bringing forth oftener than the latter.

The beſt food for them is the ſweeteſt, ſhorteſt, and beſt hay that can be got. This hay muſt be put to them in little cloven ſticks, that they may with eaſe reach and pull it out of the ſame, ſo as not to ſcatter or waſte but as little as may be; and ſweet oats and water ſhould be put for them in the troughs under the boxes, and this ſhould be their ordinary and conſtant food, all other being to be uſed phyſically, giving it them two or three times in a fortnight, to cool their bodies, ſuch as mallows, clover-graſs, ſour docks, blade of corn, cabbage or colewort leaves, and the like, all which do both cool and nouriſh them greatly; but you ſhould but ſeldom give them ſweet grains, becauſe nothing brings them to the rot more.

If they have any graſs cut for them, you muſt be very careful that there be no weeds nor hemlock amongſt it; for tho' they will eat it very greedily, it is preſent poiſon, killing them ſuddenly.

In general, the advantage of their dry meat is, that it prevents diſeaſes; and thoſe who commonly keep them upon freſh and moiſt food, as many do, giving them carrots and other eatable roots among it, would do well to change it for dry meat in wet weather: for moiſt food is the great cauſe of theſe creatures having the rot, and they are moſt of all ſubject to this in damp ſeaſons.

Their hutches muſt alſo be kept ſweet and clean, for the ſcent of their piſs and dung is ſo ſtrong, that it will be a very great annoy-

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ance both to themſelves, and thoſe that look after them.

As to the wild rabbets, there is properly but one breed of them, and all the direction that is needful in the choice is, that ſuch as are taken to begin a ſtock, be large, and big bodied, with a good deep fur, that hangs faſt upon their backs, and with ſtout limbs. The huſbandman who has waſte ground in his hands, that is fenced well, and not with live hedges, ſhould never omit this part of his ſtock, for the worſt of his ground will do, and the advantage he receives from them will be very great.

A ſmall number is ſufficient to be firſt turned in, for of all creatures uſeful to mankind, they are the greateſt breeders.

Experience ſhews that the wild rabbet ſucceeds better in ſome places than others; the young growing up much quicker, and the fleſh being finer, and better taſted. The reaſon of this is to be ſearched in the ſoil and the produce, and this may teach the huſbandman on which of ſuch grounds as ſeem proper, it will be moſt to his benefit to breed them.

In general, the ſhorter and ſcantier the graſs, the better is the taſte of the rabbet; the drier the ground the better they ſucceed; where there is much water they never are well flavoured.

Of all creatures water is the leaſt neceſſary to the rabbet, for we ſee the tame ones will live very well altogether without it, on moiſt food. Where the ſoil is drieſt, the air fineſt, and the water that there is in the way is running and clear, there the rabbets may reaſonably be expected to ſucceed beſt.

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As I have obſerved that the common wild rabbet will very freely be kept tame, ſo it has been found, many years ſince, that thoſe which we uſually underſtand as tame rabbets, will live very well wild, eſpecially the hardier kinds. This is a conſideration of ſome conſequence, becauſe there is one of the tame kind that is, in every reſpect, better than the common wild one. This is that which is known by the name of the ſilver-haired rabbet. It will live and thrive as well wild as the common ſort, and it is always better taſted, and fair to the eye, ſo that it brings a larger price. The ſkin alſo is of much more value, and the demand for it among the furriers is conſtant and certain.

For theſe reaſons it is, in many caſes, adviſeable to breed this ſort wild inſtead of the other; for though it often is ſo, it is not always. This, though as hardy as the other, requires a better ſupply of food, and is poor, and of little value, upon thoſe barren and heathy lands, on which the common wild rabbet ſucceeds very well.

The proper place for this kind is a park, where they may run at liberty among the deer, and other cattle, and where there is good graſs, though not rank, upon the ground; the other is the proper kind for the moſt miſerable and poor lands.

Plain Inſtructions for deſtroying Vermin, particularly ſuch as infeſt Houſes, Gardens, Dairies, Barns, Bees, Poultry, &c.

For deſtroying of BUGS.

TAKE a quantity of unſlacked lime, put it into a quart of water, and let it ſtand three or four days, then pour off the water, and add a quantity of common ſalt, the ſtronger both of lime and ſalt the better; waſh the ſides of the wall and bedſtead with this liquor two or three times a week, and it will kill them. Or,

Take a handful of wormwood and white hellebore, boil them in urine till it is half waſted, and waſh the joints of your bedſtead with it.

The gall of an ox mixed with vinegar, or the dregs of oil and ox gall mixed; rub the joints and cracks of the bedſtead with it, and it will kill them. Or,

Old oil and brimſtone powderedand mixed together, then anoint the bedſtead with it. Or,

Boil glue and vinegar together, then rub the bedſtead with it, and it will kill them. Or,

Take a handful of rue and wormwood, and mix them with common oil, and as much water as will cover the rue and wormwood; let it boil till the water is all boiled away, then ſtrain out the oil from the herbs, and mingle with ſheep's ſuet

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as much as the oil; then anoint the bedſtead with it, and it is an infallible remedy. Or,

Take the rind of green walnuts bruiſed, and ſteeped in water three or four days, then waſh the room and bedſtead with it often. Or,

Get a trap about a yard and a half long, or more, if your bed is broad, and about half a yard in depth; put it at the head of your bed, to the bottom of the pillow, and in the morning they will creep into it; take it into your yard, knock it, and they will drop out, ſo you may kill them. They are made of wickers by baſket-makers. To conclude;

Let your rooms be kept clean, ſet open the windows when you riſe, and lay your bed-cloaths open four or five hours, and it is the only way to prevent your having bugs.

For deſtroying FLEAS.

TAKE lavender and wormwood, and boil them in vinegar well, and ſprinkle your blankets with it; or ſavoury laid in your chamber will kill them.

Take wormwood well dried, and put it in a bag with holes in it, ſo place it under your bed; or fleawort, laid under and about your beds, kills them; or, take wormwood, nut-leaves, lavender, eye-avernon, and green coriander, put them under the bed or pillow, and the fleas will die. Or,

Take unſlacked lime, and ſtrew in your chambers. Penny-royal wrapt up in a cloth, and laid in your bed, drives fleas away: lay freſh once a week.

Or,

Or ſoap-lees and onions boiled together, and ſprinkled in the room, kills them.

Or, marſh-fleabane ſpread in your room, or burnt, will drive them away. Elder-leaves gathered, with dew on them, and laid in a chamber, will gather all the fleas thereinto, which you may kill, or throw out of the window.

Or, take an earthen diſh or platter, ſmear it all round with bulls fat, and it will gather the fleas to it; or ſmear it with goat's blood, and they'll come into it; or the blood of an ox mixed with ſoot, and rubbed on the inſide of the diſh, will make them come into it in a day or two.

Or, rub a ſmall piece of board over with hog's greaſe, and all the fleas will gather to it in the middle of the room.

Or, take the blood of a badger, ſmear a trencher over with it, and it will gather all the fleas to it, and kill them: or, coloquintida, oil, and wormwood, boiled in water, and ſprinkled about the room, kills them.

Or, take ſouthernwood, rue, wormwood, ſavory, walnut-leaves, lavender fleaſed: lay all theſe, or ſome of them, under the blankets; or elſe boil them in vinegar and ſea-onions, and with that beſprinkle the bed.

To deſtroy RATS *and* MICE.

TAKE ratſbane, powder it, and mix it with freſh butter, or make it into a paſte with barley, or wheat meal and honey, and lay it on trenchers or boards where they come; they will eat it, and it makes them drink till they burſt. It is a ſtrong poiſon, therefore be very careful in

uſing it, and waſh your hands after it. Or unſlacked lime and oatmeal mixed, and laid on boards where they come, kills them.

Or, mix powdered glaſs and oatmeal with freſh butter, and lay it where they come; or filings of iron, mixed with oatmeal, or dough, or oatmeal flour, will anſwer the ſame purpoſe.

Or, take wheat or barley flour, mix honey or metheglin with it, and make it into a ſtiff paſte; if you mix a little white hellebore powdered with it, it is better. Hemlock ſeed thrown into their holes kills them.

To kill Field Rats.

The fields are generally bare in the dog days, then is your time to find out their holes or neſts, which are little and round, like an augur hole; you muſt put hemlock ſeed therein, or hellebore mixed with barley; they will eat it greedily, which kills them.

To preſerve Artichoaks from Rats *or* Mice.

They are great lovers of artichoaks, and will come to them in troops; to prevent this, wrap wool about their roots, and they will be gone. Or, hog's dung, or fig-tree aſhes laid about them, will drive them away.

To deſtroy MOLES.

TAKE a head or two of garlick, onion, or leek, and put it into their holes, and they will

will run out as if frighted, and you may with a ſpear or dog take them.

Or, pounded hellebore, white or black, with wheat flour, the white of an egg, milk and ſweet wine or metheglin, make it into paſte, and put pellets as big as a ſmall nut into their holes, they eat it with pleaſure, and it will kill them.

In places you would not dig nor break much, the fuming their holes with brimſtone, garlick, or other unſavoury things, drives them away; and if you put a dead mole into a common haunt it will make them abſolutely forſake it.

Or, take a mole ſpear or ſtaff, and where you ſee them caſt, go lightly; but not on the ſide betwixt them and the wind, leſt they perceive you; and at the firſt or ſecond putting up of the earth, ſtrike them with your mole ſtaff downright, and mark which way the earth falls moſt: if ſhe caſts toward the left hand, ſtrike ſomewhat on the right hand, and ſo on the contrary to the caſting up of the plain ground, ſtrike down, and there let it remain: then take out the tongue in the ſtaff, and with the ſpattle or flat edge dig round about your grain to the end thereof, to ſee if you have killed her; and if you have miſſ'd her, leave open the hole, and ſtep aſide a little, and perhaps ſhe will come to ſtop the hole again, for they love but very little air, and then ſtrike again; but if you miſs her, pour into her hole two gallons of water, and that will make her come out for fear of drowning; mind them going out of a morning to feed, or coming home when fed, and you may take a great many.

Or, it is ſaid, that in engendering time, if

you lead or draw a bitch mole in a ſtring along the ground, the buck will trace her, and ſo you may catch them in a pot ſet in the ground.

To deſtroy Weaſles.

Take ſal-ammoniac, pound it, and with wheat flour and honey make it into a paſte, with the white of an egg, lay it in pellets where they come, and it will kill them.

To prevent their ſucking hens eggs, lay rue about the rooſt, and they will not come near them.

To deſtroy Caterpillars.

To prevent their numerous increaſe on trees, gather them off in Winter, taking the prickets away that cleave to the branches, and burn them.

Or, anoint the bottom of the tree round about with tar, then get many piſmires and put them in a bag; hang them ſo that they may touch the bottom of the tree; the piſmires not being able to get down for the tar, will devour the caterpillars for want of food.

Or, when they are upon cabbages or coleworts, take ſome ſalt water, and water them with it, and it will kill them.

Or, ſhake them off the plants betimes in a morning, for while they are touched with the cold of the night, they eaſily drop off.

To deſtroy Green Bugs *that hurt plants and roſe-trees*

Sprinkle the places where they fix with ſtrong vinegar

vinegar mixed with the juice of henbane; or, ſome water the plants haunted by them with the cold decoction of muſtard and laurel-ſeed in water; ſome qnaſh them with their fingers, which is a good way; or, flea-bane boiled in water, and ſprinkled, will kill them.

To deſtroy Vine-Fretters.

Stick a rod half a foot high in the ground, with mugs or cups turned over the top of it, and you will find that they creep under them for ſhelter, ſo you may eaſily kill them.

Or, put eight or nine crabs in an earthen pot with water, and let them ſtand eight days in the open air, then take off this water, and ſprinkle your plants in their infancy; repeat this once in eight days, and it will kill moſt ſorts of vermin.

To deſtroy Frogs.

Take a ſheep, ox, or goat's gall, and bruiſe it by the water ſide; the frogs will gather to it, and it will kill them.

To prevent their croaking, ſet a candle and lanthorn upon the ſide of the water or river, that water your garden.

Toads will not come near your garden, if you plant ſage and rue about it.

To drive Snakes *and* Adders *from the Garden.*

Plant wormwood in various parts of it, and they will not come near it.

Or, ſmoak the places with hartſhorn, or lily

roots, burnt in a fire-pan, and they will fly from the place.

Or, old ſhoes burnt, or other ſtinking ſtuff, will drive them away; or aſh-tree boughs, while green leaves are on them, laid about your ground will have the ſame effect.

Or, take a handful of onions, and ten river crab-fiſh, beat them well together, and lay it in the place where they come, and you may kill many of them together.

To keep Earwigs *and* Piſmires *from Flowers.*

Take glue boiled in linſeed oil, and lay this round a tub four inches broad, and if they go to climb up, they will ſtick in it, but if any ſhould get up, lay on the top of the flower ſticks, paper caps, lobſters claws, with ſome wool or tow in them, and in the morning you will find many in them.

Or, make a box with cards or paſteboard, prick it full of holes with a bodkin, and put in them powder of arſenick and honey mixed together: having the boxes on the trees, and it will kill them. You muſt be careful the holes are not made too large, leſt the bees get in and be poiſoned.

Or, hang a glaſs bottle in a tree, with a little honey in it, or other ſweet liquor, and it will bring the ants into it, which you muſt ſtop and waſh, and place there again

To deſtroy Snails.

Set tiles, bricks or boards hollow againſt the walls, pales, &c. and they will creep under them

them for ſhelter. About Michaelmas they get to ſuch places for ſecurity the whole Winter, except you prevent it by deſtroying them in December, which is the eaſieſt, beſt and ſureſt way to deſtroy them.

Or, look for them by break of day, or after rain, then they come out of the earth to feed, and are eaſily killed.

Alſo obſerve, not to pluck that fruit they have begun with, but let it alone, for they will end that before they begin another.

To prevent Flies *teazing Cattle.*

Boil bay-berries in oil, and anoint them with it, and they will never ſit on cattle; or, wet the hair of horſes with the juice of the leaves of gourd at Midſummer, and they will not moleſt them. If cattle are anointed with the juice of arſeſmart, flies will not come near them, tho' it is the heat of Summer.

To deſtroy Earwigs.

Place hoofs, horns, crabs or lobſters claws on branches of trees, and they will creep into them; early in the morning take them gently off and ſhake them into a tub of water, or on the ground, and tread on them.

To deſtroy Waſps *and* Hornets *that detriment Bees.*

In Spring or Summer, before they are increaſed, deſtroy the old ones, for a few increaſe to a multitude.

Or,

Or, ſcald them, if in the thatch or hollow tree, or ſmoak them with any ſtinking combuſtible matter.

Or, put cyder, verjuice, or ſour drink, in a ſhort-necked phial, and you may catch many in it. Alſo lay ſweet apples, beaſts intrails, or other fleſh, or treacle, in an earthen diſh, and a little water mixed with it, or any thing they love, and they will flock about it, that you may kill many at once.

Or, put pieces of lighted brimſtone-rags into the waſps holes, where the neſt lies, and then fill it up with earth.

Swallows are great enemies to bees; therefore take care to deſtroy their neſts wherever you find them.

To deſtroy Gnats.

Shut your windows cloſe in Summer towards the evening, and ſmoak your rooms with brimſtone and burn ſtraw in them, and they will fly into the flame, or be choaked.

Or, the ſmoak of burnt fern will drive away gnats, ſerpents, and other venemous creatures.

Or, aſh-leaves hung up in a room attracts them that they are leſs troubleſome; alſo, balls made of new horſe-dung, and laid in a room, will do the ſame; by this means you may overwhelm them with a baſon, and keep them there.

To deſtroy Worms.

Water, wherein the leaves and ſeeds of hemp

are

are ſodden, ſprinkled on earth, will bring them out.

Or, ſea water ſprinkled on the ground kills them. Some ſay, ſoot ſtrewed on the ground kills them. Others commend chalk and lime ſtrewed on the ground.

Take a quantity of green walnut huſks, and rub them on a brick or tile, holding them at the bottom of a pail of water till the water is become bitter, which ſprinkled on the ground, will bring the worms out in a quarter of an hour.

Or, water your garden with the brine of ſalt meat, and it kills them; or, with a ſtrong lixivium made of aſhes; or, lay aſhes or lime about any plant, and neither ſnails nor worms will come near it; as the moiſture weakens, you may renew it. Some ſmoke their holes with ox or cow-dung; or, the mother of oil ſprinkled on their holes kills them.

Or, after rain or ſun-ſet, gather them when they come out of their dens, and kill them.

Or, ſet the leaves and ſeeds of hemp in water, and ſprinkle it on the earth, brings forth worms.

Or, take a poker, with two prongs is beſt, and ſtick it in the ground, and ſhake it well, brings out worms; morning and evening is the beſt time.

To deſtroy Worms in *Apple-trees.*

Lay a ſea onion about the trees, to preſerve them from worms; if they come naturally, bull's gall or hogs dung mingled with man's urine, and poured to the roots, deſtroys them; but if they are hard to deſtroy, the bark muſt be digged into with a braſs pin, or ſuch like tool, and

tended till the point takes upon the worms, and drives them from the place; but where there is a place ulcerated, ſtop it with ox dung: an apple-tree plant, the root being anointed with bull's gall, they and their fruit will be free from worms.

To prevent Worms *eating Cheſts of Drawers, or Wood.*

Rub them with linſeed-oil; or rub them with wormwood, rue, or other bitter herbs, preſerves them, and all wooden houſhold ſtuff, that is rubbed with the lees of linſeed-oil, and poliſhed, will look pleaſant.

To deſtroy Polecats.

If you can conveniently have a channel about your pigeon houſe, it will preſerve them and all other fowl, for no beaſt of prey will take the water.

Or, ſome make a dead fall to take them, which is made of a ſquare piece of wood, weighing 40 or 50 pounds; they bore a hole in the middle of the upper ſide, and ſet a crooked hook faſt in it; alſo they ſet four forked ſtakes faſt in the ground, and there lay two ſticks acroſs, on which ſticks lay a ſtrong ſtaff to hold the dead fall up to the crook, and under this crook they put a ſhort ſtick, and faſten a line to it, and this line muſt reach down to the bridge below; and this bridge you muſt make about five or ſix inches broad. Then ſet on both ſides of this fall boards or pales, or hedge it with cloſe rods, and make it ten or twelve inches high; let the paſſage be no wider than the fall is broad.

To

To deſtroy Badgers.

Badgers are pernicious creatures, and deſtroy lambs, pigs and poultry.

Some take them in a ſteel trap, or a ſpring, as foxes are taken.

Others make a pit-fall five feet deep, and four long, making it narrow at the top and bottom, and wider in the middle; then cover it with ſome ſmall ſticks and leaves, ſo that he may fall in when he comes on it. Sometimes a fox is taken thus.

Others hunt the badger to his hole in a moon-light night, and dig him out.

Hedgehogs always make their cave or cabbin contrary to the wind.

To deſtroy Foxes.

Take a ſheep's paunch, and tie it to a long ſtick, then rub your ſhoes well upon it, that he may not ſcent your ſweaty feet; draw this paunch after you as a trail, a mile or more, and bring it near ſome thick headed tree; leave your paunch, and get into the tree with a gun, and as it begins to be dark, you will ſee him come after the ſcent of the trail, where you may ſhoot him; draw the trail if you can to the windward of the tree.

The beſt way is, to ſet a ſteel trap in the plain part of a large field, out of the way of all paths, yet not near a hedge, or any ſhelter: then open the trap, ſet it on the ground, and cut out juſt the form thereof in a turf, and take out ſo much earth as to make room to ſtay it; then cover it a-

gain

gain very neatly with the turf you cut out; and as the joint of the turf will not close exactly, get some mold of a new cast up mole-hill, and put it close round the turf, sticking some grass in it as if it there grew; make it curious and neat, that it might even deceive yourself. Ten or twelve yards from the trap, three several ways, scatter some of the mole-hill mold very thin, on a place fifteen or sixteen inches square; then on these places, and where the trap is placed, lay three or four small bits of cheese, and then with a sheep's paunch draw a trail a mile or two long to each of these three places, and from thence to the trap, that the fox may come to one of these places first, for then he will approach the trap more boldly; and thus you will never fail of him. Be sure let your trap be loose, that he may draw it to some hedge or covert, or he will bite off his leg and be gone.

To make a Spring Trap.

Tie a string to some pole set fast in the ground, and to this string make fast a small, short stick, made thin on the upper side, with a notch at the lower end of it; then set another stick fast in the ground, with a nitch under it; then bend down the pole, and let both the nicks or notches join as slight as may be; then open the noose of the string, and place it in his path or walk; and if you lay pieces of cheese, flesh, and such like, it will entice him that way.

Or, grease the soals of your shoes with hog's fat a little broiled, and as you come from the wood, drop in several places as you pass, a piece of roasted swine's liver dipt in honey, drawing after

after you a dead cat, and he'll follow you, ſo that you may ſhoot him.

A Hook to take a Fox *tied to tree.*

This hook is made of large wire, and turns on a ſwivel, like the collar of a greyhound; it is frequently uſed in catching wolves, but oftener for the fox. They hang it from the ground ſo high that he muſt leap to catch it; and bait it with fleſh, liver, cheeſe, &c. and if you run a trail with a ſheep's paunch as before directed, it will draw him the more eaſily to the bait.

Methods of taking ſmall Birds *with Lime-twigs.*

Cut down the main branch or bough of any buſhy tree, whoſe branch and twigs are long, thick, ſmooth, and ſtraight, without either pricks or knots; when you have picked off the leaves, make the twigs neat and clean, then take the beſt bird lime, well mixed and wrought together with gooſe-greaſe, or capon's greaſe, which being warmed, lime every twig therewith within four fingers of the bottom.

The body from whence the branches have their riſe muſt be untouched with lime.

You muſt be careful not to daub your twigs with too much lime, for that will give as much diſtate to the birds, as too little will not hold them when they are there.

Having ſo done, place your bruſh in ſome quickſet, or dead hedge, near the town's end, back yard, old houſe, or the like; for theſe

are the reſorts of ſmall birds in the Spring-time: In the Summer and harveſt in groves, buſhes, or white thorn trees, quickſet hedges, near corn fields, fruit trees, flax and hemp lands; and, in the Winter, about houſes, hovels, barns, ſtacks or other places, where ſtand ricks of corn, or ſcattered chaff, &c.

As near as you can to any of theſe haunts, plant your lime buſh, and plant yourſelf alſo at a convenient diſtance, undiſcovered, imitating with your mouth ſeveral notes of birds, which you muſt learn by frequent practice, walking the fields for that purpoſe very often, obſerving the variety of ſeveral birds ſounds, eſpecially ſuch as they call one another by.

To ſcare Crows, Ravens, Jack-daws, *&c.*

Make a hole in the ground where they come, let it be about a foot deep and two feet over, and ſtick the long back feather of a crow, or other fowl, round the edges thereof, and ſome at the bottom; then make ſeveral of theſe holes if the ground be large, and it will fright them all away.

Dead crows hung up will much affright them; but among cherry-trees and other fruit-trees, draw a line from tree to tree, and in various places faſten a black feather, and this will do.

To take Bulfinches, Goldfinches, *&c.*

The bulfinch is a very pernicious bird, and in the Spring will make great deſtruction among the

the plum and currant trees. The beſt way to take them, is to lime the twigs.

Goldfinches are as bad for gooſeberry-buds, and muſt be taken the ſame way.

Sparrows are great devourers of corn; uſe the ſame method for them, and all other ſmall birds.

A Remedy by which a dog bitten by another that is mad, may be cured.

Take three plants of that herb which is called roſe-plantain, and having chopped it ſmall with a proper quantity of butter, let the dog that is bit take it the firſt day; the ſecond day give him five plants ordered as before; the next day ſeven.

The following are the evident ſigns by which a mad dog may be known, and likewiſe avoided.

A mad dog is ſeemingly rapacious and thirſty, yet eats and drinks nothing; his eyes are fierce and flaming; he hangs down his ears and thruſts out his tongue; froths much at the mouth, and barks at his ſhadow; oftentimes runs along with a melancholy countenance, without barking at all; frequently pants for breath, as if tired with running; carries his tail bent inwards; runs without diſtinction againſt all he meets, with great fury, and bites; hurrying on in a haſty and uncertain courſe. Dogs that are well are afraid, and fly both at the ſight and barking of one that is mad. The firſt mad ſympton in a dog, is an unuſual trembling.

Receipt to cure Poultry ſtung with any venomous Worms, or other poiſonous Thing.

This you perceive by their lounging and ſwelling; in which caſe anoint them with rue and butter mixt together.

To prevent young Trees from being peeled by Hares, Rabbets, or other Animals.

Take tar, which mix with any kind of greaſe, and boil it over the fire ſo as both many incorporate, then with a bruſh daub over the ſtem of the trees as high as they can reach; do this in November, and it will ſecure the trees for the whole year, it being the Winter-time only when they feed on the bark.

To cure the Pip in Poultry.

A pip is a white thin ſcale growing on the tip of the tongue, and will hinder poultry from feeding. It is eaſy to be diſcerned, and proceeds generally from drinking puddle-water, or for want of water, or eating filthy meat. The cure is, to pull off the ſcale with your nail, and then rub the tongue with ſalt.

To cure the Rup.

The rup is ordinarily known by the ſtaring or turning of the feathers backwards. To cure this you muſt pull away the feathers, and open the ſore, thruſt out the core, and then waſh the place with ſalt and water, or with brine.

To

To cure the Flux.

The flux in poultry comes with eating too much moiſt meat. The cure is, to give them peas and bran, ſcalded.

To cure a ſtoppage in the belly.

This is a diſtemper contrary to the flux, and affects them ſo that they cannot move. To cure it, you muſt anoint the vents, and then give them ſmall bits of bread, or corn, ſteeped in urine.

To cure Lice.

If your poultry be much troubled with lice, as it is common, proceeding from corrupt food, or want of bathing, or fluttering in ſand, aſhes, or ſuch like, take pepper, ſmall beaten, and mix it with warm water, waſh your poultry therein, and it will kill all ſorts of vermin.

To cure Sore Eyes in Poultry.

In this caſe take a leaf or two of ground-ivy, and chewing it well in your mouth, ſuck out the juice, and ſpit into the ſore eye, and it will aſſuredly heal it, as hath been often tried.

THE

Shepherd's Barometer;

Or, certain Rules *to judge of the* WEATHER: *grounded on fifty years experience and obſervations, by an ancient ſhepherd on the* South Downs, Suſſex.

THE ſun. If the ſun riſes red and fiery, it certainly betokens more or leſs wind and rain, this obſervation agrees with the old Engliſh rule;

If red the ſun begins his race,
Be ſure that rain will fall apace.

If cloudy at ſun-riſing, and it ſoon decreaſes, it is a certain ſign of fair weather: agreeable to this an obſervation of Pliny's, in his natural hiſtory, which ſays—If at ſun-riſing the clouds are driven away, and retire as it were to the weſt, it denotes fair weather.

There is an old proverb to this purpoſe, which alſo deſerves our notice:

A red evening, and a grey morning, ſet the pilgrim a walking.

Clouds. Little round clouds like a dapple grey, and at the ſame time a north-wind blows, denotes fair weather for a few days.

Lord

Lord Bacon ſays, he had always obſerved, that if clouds appear white, and fly to the north-weſt, we had generally ſeveral days of fine weather. One of our old Engliſh minor poet ſays, (and it generally holds good)

If woolly fleeces ſpread the heavenly way,
Be ſure, no rain diſturbs the Summer day.

And Pliny, to the ſame purpoſe, ſays:
If the ſun be ſurrounded with an iris, or circle of white clouds, and they equally fly away, 'tis a ſign of fair weather.
And this old Engliſh proverb is often right;

In the decay of the moon,
A cloudy morning bodes a fair afternoon.

Large clouds, like rocks, denote large ſhowers: this is an old obſervation, and generally proves true: in one of our old kalendars it is expreſſed thus:

When clouds appear like rocks and towers,
The earth's refreſh'd by frequent ſhowers.

But the quotations from other obſervers do not in the leaſt diminiſh the credit of our ſhepherd, who certainly made his obſervations from nature and experience, and then compared them with what others had wrote before him.
If the weather be hazy, and the wind falls away, and ſmalls clouds increaſe, depend on much rain, and that ſoon.

If large clouds break away, decreaſe in bulk, and aſcend higher in the atmoſphere, it is a certain ſign of fair, pleaſant weather. The large black clouds in Summer evenings, which ſeemingly threaten much rain over night, are frequently reſolved into dews, and produce a very miſty morning, and a fine warm day.

Miſts. When they riſe in low ground, and ſoon vaniſh, nothing is a ſurer ſign of fair weather; when they are heavy, riſe ſlowly, and keep viſible on the hill-tops, they are ſoon condenſed, and fall down in rain, which, however, ſeldom laſts long.

A miſt in the morning, before ſun-riſing, and at or about the full of the moon, betides fair weather; but if miſts appear in the new moon, you may depend on more or leſs rain in the old; and when they ariſe in the old, there is generally rain in the new.

Winds. South-weſt winds and rain, north-eaſt winds and fair weather, generally come together; and in nine years time I have obſerved, there is as much ſouth-weſt as north-eaſt wind; conſequently, as many wet years as dry ones.

If the wind gets into the north-eaſt, and remains three days without rain, it generally continues in that quarter for nine or ten days, which will be fair; and then it commonly turns to the ſouth, and ſome rain follows.

If the wind ſhifts from the ſouth to the north-eaſt, and it rains at the ſame time, and continues north-eaſt but two days without rain, it commonly abides chiefly in that quarter for two, and ſometimes three months.

If the wind has been chiefly north for two months, and then comes to the ſouth, you may expect a few fine days notwithſtanding; but if it continues ſouth five or ſix days, depend on rain; but if it turns to the north again, it is undoubtedly dry.

If the wind ſhifts from the north to the ſouth in a few days without rain, and turns north again with rain, returns to the ſouth in one or two days, and ſo on for two or three times keeps ſhifting, it will afterwards fix ſouth or ſouth-weſt for two months or more.

A week of fair weather, with a ſouth wind, forebodes a great drought, eſpecially if there has been much rain out of the ſouth before.

When the north wind firſt clears the air, which generally happens once a week, you may depend on a fair day or two.

Clouds. In Summer or Autumn, when the wind has been in the ſouth two or three days, and the weather very hot, and the clouds riſe one above another, with white tops, like battlements of a tower, and joined together, and black on the hills, depend on thunder and rain very ſpeedily.

You may ſometimes ſee two clouds, one to the left, another to the right, which denotes a ſudden ſhower.

When clouds float in a ſerene ſky you may expect winds, and if they riſe from the ſouth, depend on rain; and if you ſee them driving at ſunſet, come from what quarter they will, depend on a tempeſt approaching. Clouds that have a duſky hue, and move ſlowly, are laden with hail; if they have a blue caſt, with large hail; if yellow,

low, ſmall. Lord Bacon remarked, that the proverbs are the philoſophy of the common people, and as many are founded on experience, and are undoubtedly true, ſuch are worth our notice, and ought to be remembered,

The faſter it rains, the ſooner it will be over, and ſudden rains never laſt long. But when the air grows thick, and the ſun, moon, and ſtars ſhine dim, then it is like to rain ſix hours ſucceſſively.

If it begins raining in the ſouth, attended with a high wind for two or three hours, and afterwards falls, but the rain continues, it will in all probability laſt for ten hours or more, unleſs a ſtrong north wind ſhould riſe, which generally clears the air, and carries off the rain; theſe rains ſeldom happen above once a year.

When it rains an hour or two before ſun-riſing, it is generally clear before noon, and continues ſo the whole day; but if the rain ſets in an hour or two after ſun riſing, it generally rains all day, unleſs the rainbow appears a little before the rain begins, then it ſeldom laſts long.

Of Spring *and* Summer.

If the laſt twenty days of February and ten firſt days of March be chiefly rain, then the Spring and Summer are generally wet.

A rainy Winter betokens a dry Autumn; a dry Spring denotes a rainy Winter.

When October and November are warm and rainy, January and February are frofty and cold; but if October and November be ſnow and froſt, then January and February are open and mild.

As

As the following old proverbs are in ſome meaſure true, they ought not to be forgot, and are therefore here inſerted.

If the graſs grow in Janiveer,
It grows the worſe for't all the year.
The Welchman had rather ſee his dam on the bier,
Than to ſee a fair Februeer.
March wind, and May ſun,
Make cloaths white, and maids dun.
When April blows his horn,
It's good for both hay and corn.
An April flood
Carries away the frog and her brood.
A cold May and a windy,
Makes a full barn and a findy.
A May flood
Never did good.
A ſwarm of bees in May
Is worth a load of hay;
But a ſwarm in July
Is not worth a fly.

To ſhew the approach of wet and dry weather.

Take a piece of dry whipcord, and tie a plumbet at the end, hang it againſt a wainſcot or dry wall, and draw a line under it, exactly at the bottom where the plumbet reaches; do this in moderate weather, that is, when neither very dry nor very wet; and when it is like to be wet weather, the plumbet will be above the line, and when dry it will reach below the line, but what is better, take a pair of ſcales, in one put a braſs pound weight, in the other a pound of dry ſalt; let

let there be a ſhelf or board under the ſcales to prevent their ſinking too low, and when it is inclined to rain, the ſcale with the ſalt will ſink the loweſt; when inclined to dry, the ſcale with the braſs weight will weigh up the ſalt.

Bat-Fowling, the manner of it.

OBſerve where theſe birds rooſt in great numbers, as they generally do in ſhrubs, hedges, or trees; then go in a dark night, and have a wicker with a handle to hold on high, in which place pieces of links or great candle, to make a great light; ſome have a pan to make a fire, and carry it at their back, but then one muſt put fire on as faſt as it burns out; then let one go with a pole, and beat the contrary ſide, and two or three with you, carrying long boughs; and when they are unrooſted with beating, they will come flying about the light, ſo that they with the bough may eaſily ſtrike them down; if among ſhrubs, as in a wood, let one on each ſide beat at a pretty diſtance. This muſt be done in a pure ſtill night. Depth of Winter is the beſt for this ſport. Some uſe nets made like a racket at the end of poles, with which they are eaſily knocked down.

A Secret to hinder pigeons from quitting a pigeon-houſe.

TAKE the head and feet of a gelt goat, and boil them together till the fleſh ſeparates from the bone; take this fleſh and boil it again in the ſame liquor, till the whole is conſumed; bruiſe into this decoction, which is very thick, ſome potter's earth, out of which you are to take all the ſtones, vetch, dung, hemp, ſoot and corn; the whole muſt be kneaded together, and reduced to a paſte of dough, which form into ſmall loaves about the thickneſs of two fiſts, and dry them in the ſun or oven, and take care they do not burn, when they are baked, lay them in ſeveral parts of the pigeon houſe, and as ſoon as they are ſet there the pigeons will amuſe themſelves with pecking them, and finding ſome taſte therein which pleaſes them, they will not afterwards leave it but with regret. Others take a handful of ſalt, which they candy, and afterwards put into the pigeon-houſe. Some take a goat's head and boil it in water with ſal', cummin, hemp and urine; and then expoſe it in the pigeon-houſe, with which they amuſe the pigeons. Laſtly, there are thoſe who fry millet in honey, and add a little water thereto to prevent its burning too; this preparation is a repaſt to them, and will cauſe them to have ſuch an affection for their ordinary habitation, that they will be ſo far from abandoing it themſelves, that they will draw ſtrange pigeons to it.

☞ As it is very probable that this Book may fall into the Hands of many Perſons in the Country, whoſe occaſional Buſineſs may call them to London, or whoſe Inclinations may lead them to ſettle in the Metropolis, I would moſt earneſtly recommend to their Peruſal the following Book, which is Publiſhed with the *moſt benevolent intention* of guarding the *honeſt* and *unwary* from the Tricks and Artifices of *villainous* and *deſigning* Wretches of both Sexes; and I the rather recommend this Work, as the Peruſal of it has *already ſaved* ſeveral very worthy Perſons from *ruin:* for though Country People are no Way deficient in point of *Abilities*, yet it is impoſſible that they ſhould guard againſt Snares they have never heard or thought of, and which the Honeſty of their Hearts would never allow them to ſuſpect; therefore the Peruſal of it to thoſe who deſign going to London, may very truly be allowed worth its Weight in Gold.

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